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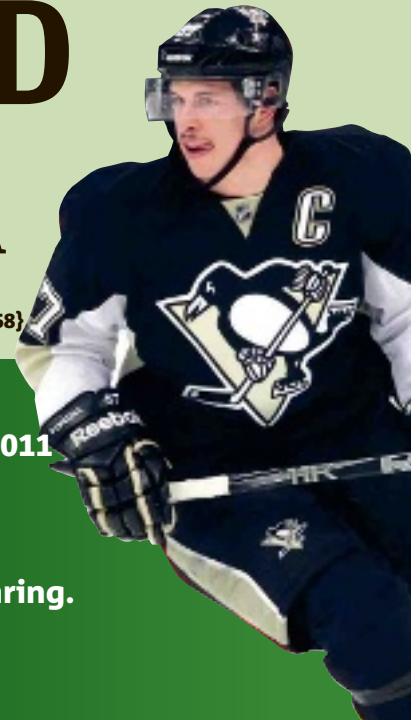
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CASSEROLE TO FEED
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CROSBY TO MISS
TWO GAMES AS A
'PRECAUTION' {page 58}



OTTAWA

metro

Thursday, December 8, 2011
www.metronews.ca



News worth sharing.

Bench. Warmers



► An urban artist covertly dressed the two young lovers on Lea Vivot's Secret Bench of Knowledge in front of the federal Library and Archives building Monday night.

CONTRIBUTED

Yarn bomber strikes the Secret Bench

"I thought they looked cold," the yarn bomber told Metro. She snapped a photo the following morning. The sculpture itself was a guerrilla art work according to leavivot.com, which says Lea Vivot placed her work in front of the building without permission one night in 1989.

Over the counter drug scare

► Misadventure at South Carleton High School leaves pupils sick and tingly

JESSICA
SMITH
[@METRONEWS.CA](http://METRONEWS.CA)

Several students South Carleton High School took an over-the-counter medication and ended up in hospital yesterday.

A school liaison officer called paramedics after students reported feeling ill, said Ottawa police spokesperson Marc Soucy.

"A few students started complaining about mild symptoms, which included some nausea and tingling to the extremities," said Paramedic Service spokesperson Jean-Pierre Trottier.

"They had, earlier in the day, ingested some over-the-counter medication given to them by

"Judging by the reaction of some of the parents who were at the scene, they will be asking lots of questions of their children later on this evening."

J.P. TROTTIER, PARAMEDIC SERVICE SPOKESPERSON

another student."

He wouldn't disclose what the students took.

Paramedics checked out seven students. Some had no symptoms and all had normal vital signs, but they were taken to CHEO for a full assessment as a precaution, said Trottier.

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The Sandfield, Elev. 'C', 2,268 Sq.Ft.
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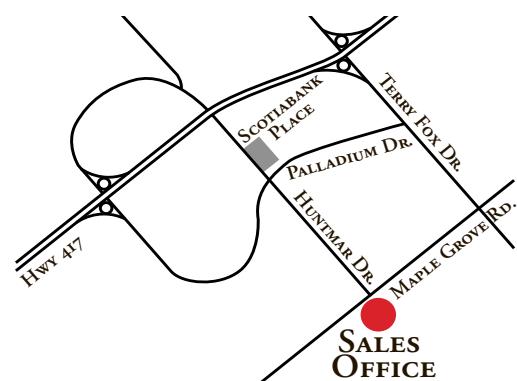


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Six young Canadians — including Ottawa's "rogue" parliamentary page, Brigitte DePape — were kicked out of the UN climate negotiations in Durban, South Africa, for standing up with slogan-emblazoned T-shirts and turning their backs on federal Environment Minister Peter Kent to protest Canada's inaction on climate change. "I joined with other Canadian youths to turn our backs on Canada because Canada's turned its back on us," DePape said by phone from South Africa. The group was escorted out by security and their accreditation for the conference was revoked. Kent announced this week that Canada would not take on a second commitment to the 1997 Kyoto Protocol.

• JESSICA SMITH



Cold. Shoulder

From left, Meghan McCarthy, Brigitte DePape, Sonia Grant, James Hutt, Karen Rooney and Matthew Chisholm turn their backs in a silent protest during Environment Minister Peter Kent's speech to the plenary at climate-change talks in Durban, South Africa.

CONTRIBUTED

'Rogue' page and others turfed from climate talks

Residents cry foul over 'secret' meeting

► Access-to-info request sparks concern ► Controversial South March Highlands project was to have begun last year ► City must now decide on environmental assessment: Councillor

 JESSICA SMITH
@METRONEWS.CA

Residents who oppose development in the South March Highlands say they're concerned about developers' influence on city staff after a law student uncovered records of a "secret" meeting at city hall.

"I'm concerned that there's preference being given to the developers, developers with deep pockets. The imbalance of power," said Natalia Crowe, a first-year law student at the University of

Ottawa.

Crowe is a member of the Coalition to Protect the South March Highlands. As part of an assignment for her public law class, she requested the draft and final versions of a stormwater management report by engineering firm AECOM Canada, because it concerns the KNL Development subdivision the group opposes.

The final version contains records of an Aug. 15 meeting between city staff, AECOM engineers and members of the IBI Group who consult for KNL. At

that time, the Coalition to Protect the South March Highlands was asking for access to the draft report, but had been refused.

Notes from the meeting show that KNL consultants disputed aspects of the draft report and discussed two potential hurdles to the development — the presence of endangered turtles in the wetland and the need for an environmental assessment.

Mary Jarvis, a spokesperson for KNL, said meetings about draft reports are typical. "As a landowner we would be involved and

"Why are you having secret meetings with the developer when you're withholding the same information from the public?"

PAUL RENAUD, COALITION TO PROTECT THE SOUTH MARCH HIGHLANDS

asked to monitor the progress," she said.

Coun. Marianne Wilkinson, who represents Kanata North, said staff had legitimate reason to meet

with KNL consultants: They had information about the area that the city needs to know. Other citizens aren't typically granted access to draft reports unless they're tabled at a public meeting, because when changes are made in the final draft it creates confusion, she said.

"These are people who have been criticizing the city every step of way. They've taken the city to court. So the city doesn't want to give them any information until they know they've looked at it thoroughly," Wilkinson said.



Health Canada is imploring physicians not to prescribe the drug Avastin for conditions other than cancer, as serious complications have been linked to such off-label use in the U.S. Scan code for story.

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Indonesian police give the force's lip-synching cop the axe.
Video at metronews.ca/video

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► Ottawa swaps common sense for Ikeamania

► Eager shoppers ascend to the second level of the new IKEA store in Ottawa after it officially opened its doors to the public yesterday morning.

 **JOE LOFARO**
@METRONEWS.CA

Hundreds of customers poured into Ottawa's new IKEA yesterday morning to browse the showrooms and try the food.

Some even camped outside the store Tuesday afternoon and into yesterday morning, even though the first official customer had already been there since Friday, living in a Plexiglass box.

Michele Pomerant won a Bob FM radio contest to

live inside the box until the opening, which occurred at 8 a.m. today, earning herself a \$10,000 gift certificate.

But that didn't matter to people like David White and Jennifer Aubé.

White plopped himself into a chair at around 12:30 p.m. Tuesday and was later joined by others queued up behind him, including Aubé at around 4 p.m.

Aubé and about 100 early birds in line won a free Pongo chair, but she didn't want to stop there.

She also wanted to buy furniture items for her bedroom because she likes the design of the IKEA products.

"It's different, everything's unique," she said, minutes before the doors opened. "The lampshades are amazing and you wouldn't find them at any other store."

Mayor Jim Watson, Coun. Rick Chiarelli and Sweden's deputy ambassador helped open the store, but not before singing the Canadian and Swedish anthems during the raising

of both countries' flags.

Watson applauded IKEA for adding 100 new jobs to Ottawa and Chiarelli for working on getting the store opened.

The new store — Canada's largest — is more than 425,000 square feet and is 18 times larger than the arena at Scotiabank Place, said IKEA Canada president Kerri Molinaro.

While there was a sizable crowd outside for the opening, it quickly dwindled and many customers exited the store with nothing in their hands.

"It's taken 10 years to get to this stage — that's a lot of assembly time required."

MAYOR JIM WATSON

Frick, IKEA Canada's public-relations manager, had anticipated on Tuesday that about 13,000 customers would show up on opening day. It's yet to be seen if the estimate was borne out.

With 640 seats inside the new restaurant section, it's possible some customers may have lined up to get their hands on some gift certificates and a hot breakfast.

One of the first, if not the first, sale at IKEA was a plate of French toast and, oddly, a cinnamon Danish.

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Ottawa stands in for Big Apple in new flick

► Michael Keaton coming to Ottawa in January to film his scenes for Penthouse North ► Local extras star as New Yorkers in thriller



Hollywood star Michelle Monaghan was knocked down by a cyclist at the corner of Metcalfe and McLaren streets yesterday afternoon, but it was all an act.

Local film company Zed Filmworks started filming the thriller, Penthouse North, in Ottawa yesterday. The movie stars Michael Keaton, Michelle Monaghan, and Barry Sloane and is slated to come out next year.

Monaghan recently starred in another thriller called Source Code and played Robert Downey Jr.'s wife in the comedy Due Date.

Police closed part of Metcalfe Street for a few hours while a crew shot a scene in which Monaghan, playing a blind woman, gets knocked over by a cyclist on a Brooklyn, N.Y., street on New Year's Eve. The scene also introduces Sloane's character as he helps Monaghan to her feet.

Monaghan plays a photojournalist living in a New York penthouse when a sadistic criminal looking for a hidden fortune enters her life.

Zed Filmworks president Robert Menzies



► Producer Robert Menzies, president of Ottawa film company Zed Filmworks, poses next to one of the New York City taxis parked on MacLaren Street yesterday during the film shoot for Penthouse North in downtown Ottawa.

chose the Mayfair apartment building on McLaren Street because it had a New York feel, he said.

"What's great about our downtown core is we got these brownstone buildings, which are sort of the war-era," said Menzies. "While we don't have the height, as long as we only see ground level we can actually match with shots in New York City."

"The audience will have no clue that this was

being shot here in Ottawa."

He also said it's a great moment for Ottawa's film industry. Last year the firm brought Jennifer Lawrence here to shoot The House at the End of the Street, which will hit theatres in April.

He said he was adamant about hiring locals to work on this latest film.

"We're also dumping a lot of money into the economy across a variety of different sectors, from

hotels to lunch catering, purchases," he said.

Part of the cast is local, too. Thomas Ielo, 21, was cast to star as an extra in yesterday's scene alongside his brother, Bruno, 28. They said it was fun to act just a few feet away from Monaghan and Sloane, even though they didn't meet them and had to redo their scene several times.

"It was fantastic," said Thomas. "It was a great opportunity to take part in this."



► Michelle Monaghan, left, acts out a scene on Metcalfe Street yesterday in which she crosses the street on her way to buy a gift on New Year's Eve in New York.



► Out of nowhere a cyclist zips past her and pretends to knock Monaghan down to the ground, yelling, "Are you blind?" as he continues to bike without stopping.



► Monaghan yells, "Yeah, I am blind" to the cyclist as actor Barry Sloane rushes to the sidewalk to see if she is OK.



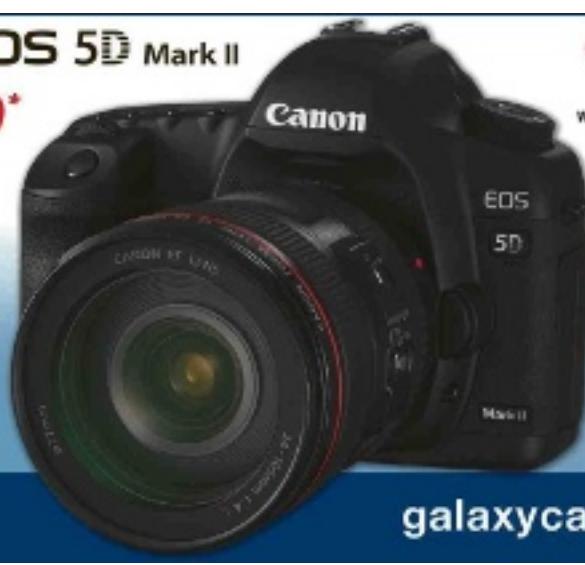
► Sloane asks Monaghan if she is all right and helps her to her feet so that she can cross the street safely.

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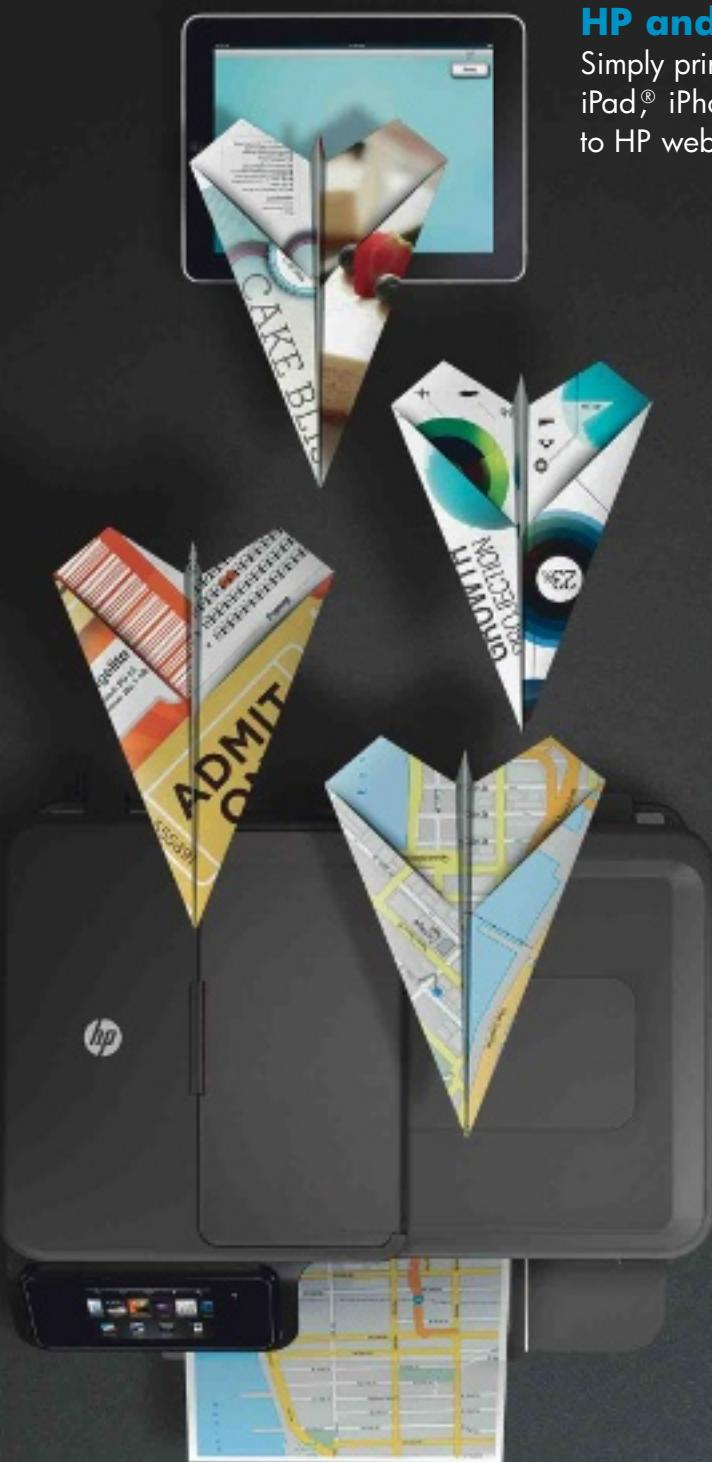
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LABOUR INVESTIGATION

School board faces charges for explosion

The Ottawa Catholic School Board is facing a charge from the Ottawa Fire Services in relation to the explosion at Mother Teresa Catholic High School in May — a blast that killed 18-year-old Eric Leighton.

The board faces a charge for welding or cutting operations

undertaken in a totally closed container, according to fire officials. The charge was first laid July 17 and could lead to a maximum fine of \$100,000.

Lawyers are expected to return to court Monday following a preliminary hearing in the summer. A spokesperson for the Ontario Ministry of Labour said their investigation is under review. Mardi de Kemp, communications officer for the school board, refused to comment yesterday. • METRO

A home for the holidays

Homeless families in Ottawa will be able to move into a six-unit apartment building this holiday season, thanks to a group of volunteers who donated the co-ordination, design, construction and furnishings for a new facility over the last two years.

"The workers hired by PCL to develop the Ottawa Convention Centre, along with GBA Development and Project Management, the Ottawa Building and Trades Council, and others, co-ordinated an effort to demolish a crumbling apartment at 245 Crichton St. in New Edinburgh, and build a new, accessible

10,502 There were 10,502 households on the City of Ottawa's social-housing waiting list at the end of 2010.

apartment building that can accommodate six local families in need of a home and community," wrote Kathryn Hendrick, a volunteer with the project, in a news release.

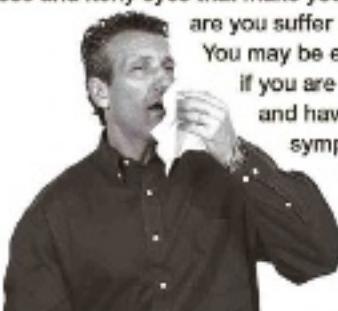
Labour, material and administration of the project were all donated, she said. Hendrick said in the release the facility will open in time for Christmas to six homeless families.

• METRO

Do you suffer from GRASS allergies?

Kanata Allergy Services, in conjunction with Kingston General Hospital, is looking for people to participate in a study about an investigational drug for grass allergies.

If you sneeze from May to mid-July and have a runny nose and itchy eyes that make you miserable, chances are you suffer from grass allergies. You may be eligible to participate if you are 18 to 65 years of age and have had grass allergy symptoms for at least two years. Compensation is provided.



For more information, please call Jeanne at 613-599-5700 ext. 23 or email: kanataallergy@gmail.com

Residents kick up some dirt on Michele Park

► Complaints of poor lighting, crime, garbage, drugs, needles in park



JOE LOFARO
@METRONEWS.CA

Bay Ward Coun. Mark Taylor vowed to clean up Michele Park and make the area safer after a small group of angry residents held a protest there on Tuesday.

Residents said there isn't enough lighting on streets at night and are worried about gang violence and garbage in and around the playground.

ACORN Ottawa, a non-profit organization that advocates for low-income families, organized the protest.

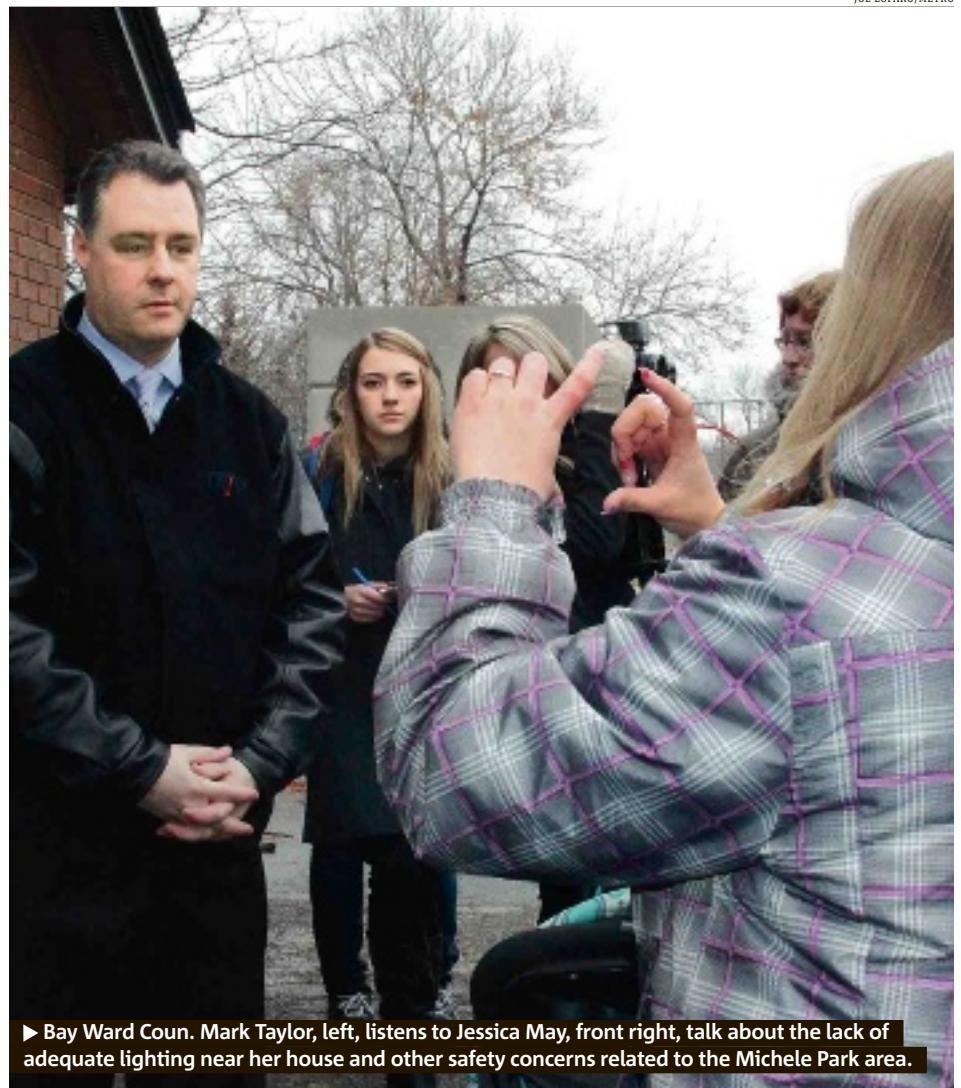
"Let's try to and figure out together the things you would like to accomplish and do them in a short (time)." — BAY WARD COUN. MARK TAYLOR

"As you can see, the garbage laying around — that's a big issue," said Jessica May, a mother of two who lives near the park.

"We don't know what's in the sand. I've discovered needles, I've discovered joints."

"It's just not safe."

Taylor reassured residents that he will address issues such as lighting,



► Bay Ward Coun. Mark Taylor, left, listens to Jessica May, front right, talk about the lack of adequate lighting near her house and other safety concerns related to the Michele Park area.

garbage and recycling receptacles, and maintenance of the park.

But he also requested that the community take

an active role in improving the conditions of the park.

Taylor encouraged the community co-ordinator

for the area to attend his upcoming bi-monthly meeting in January to address residents' biggest concerns.

Police sticking with their dogs

Gatineau police dispelled rumours yesterday that they would discontinue having their own dog handlers and would instead call upon the services of the Sûreté du Québec in the future.

In fact, a competition to fill two positions in the canine unit will be posted as soon as possible the force said in a press release.

If the process goes as planned, the force will have the new employees in place by the end of the summer of 2012, the force said.

Training courses have already been reserved with the Montreal (SPVM).

The courses last more than 20 weeks, the force said.

• METRO

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Cops hope credit charges will foil robber

► Police release security-video stills in hopes that public will be able to identify suspects in string of break-ins

Security-video footage of a man and a woman police say were using a stolen credit card could help crack a string of break-ins in the east end of Ottawa.

Police released stills of the security video yesterday in the hopes the public could identify the suspects, who are believed to be accomplices.

Since Oct. 8, there have been seven daytime residential break-ins in Blackburn Hamlet.

The suspect enters homes through the rear of the home and targets jewelry and small portable electronics, police say.

An image was captured at an RBC bank when a credit card stolen in one of the break-ins was used. The suspect is described as white, five-foot-ten, with a thin build and

short dark hair.

A photo of a woman using the same stolen credit card has also been obtained through video surveillance.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Detective Robert Reeve of the break-and-enter section at 613-236-1222 ext. 3436 or Crime Stoppers at 613-233-8477 (TIPS) or toll free at 1-800-222-8477.

● METRO

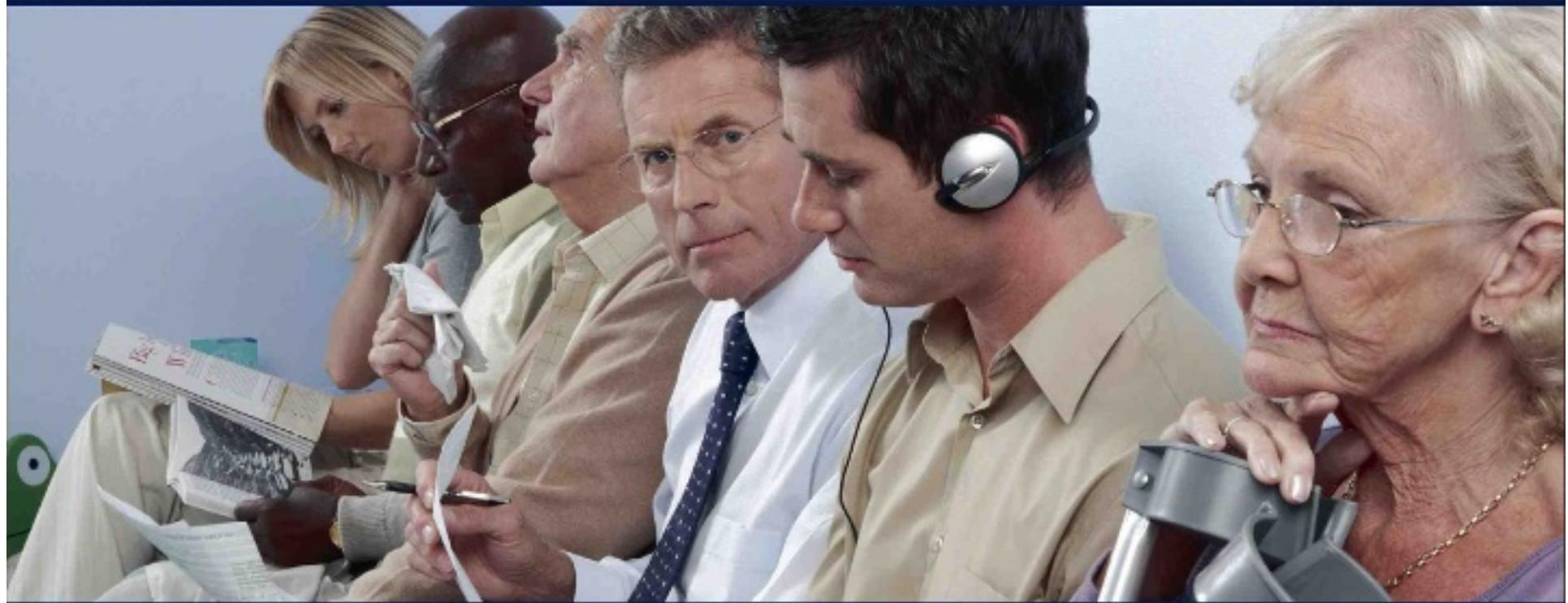


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Fight for human rights through written words

► Write-a-thon celebrates Amnesty International's 60th anniversary ► Event runs tonight 5 p.m.-8 p.m.



SEAN MCKIBBON
@METRONEWS.CA

Ottawans can celebrate their freedoms and help bring human rights to others tonight when Amnesty International hosts its Write-a-thon.

Celebrating its 60th an-

niversary, Amnesty is holding a gathering for the public at the Canadian Museum of Nature, where it will highlight human-rights abuses and encourage attendees to write letters demanding various authorities and entities clean up their act.

"It's kind of a party with

a purpose," said Hala al-Madi, a community fundraiser with Amnesty.

The event runs from 5-8 with snacks, drinks and musical entertainment. Performers include punk rocker Jenny Woo, blues singer Terry Gilespie, local choral troupe Shout Sister and a classical string quartet.



► Ali Liebert, who plays Betty in the new Global TV drama *Bomb Girls*, strikes a *Rosie the Riveter* pose at the War Museum on Tuesday. The series premiere is Jan. 4 at 8 p.m.

DENIS DREVER/FOR METRO

Bomb Girls battle their own war

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James pleads guilty to sex abuse

► Former junior hockey coach to be sentenced on Feb. 22 ► Ex-player Fleury says damage has been done

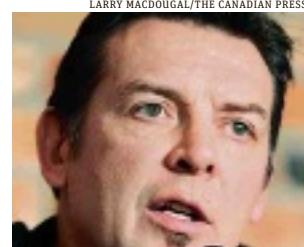
It was another dark moment in one of the blackest chapters in Canadian hockey.

Former junior coach and convicted sex offender Graham James pleaded guilty yesterday to sexual assaults involving two of his former players, including NHL star Theoren Fleury. A soft-spoken, emotionless James entered the plea in a Winnipeg courtroom via video link from Montreal.

The disgraced coach was originally facing nine charges of sexual assault involving three players between 1979 and 1994, but only pleaded guilty to charges involving Fleury and another victim, whose name remains under a court-order publication ban.

Charges related to a third complainant, Greg Gilhooley, were stayed.

At a news conference in Calgary, Fleury criticized



"I believe what people show me — he showed me he was and is a rapist. There is no changing a monster like that."

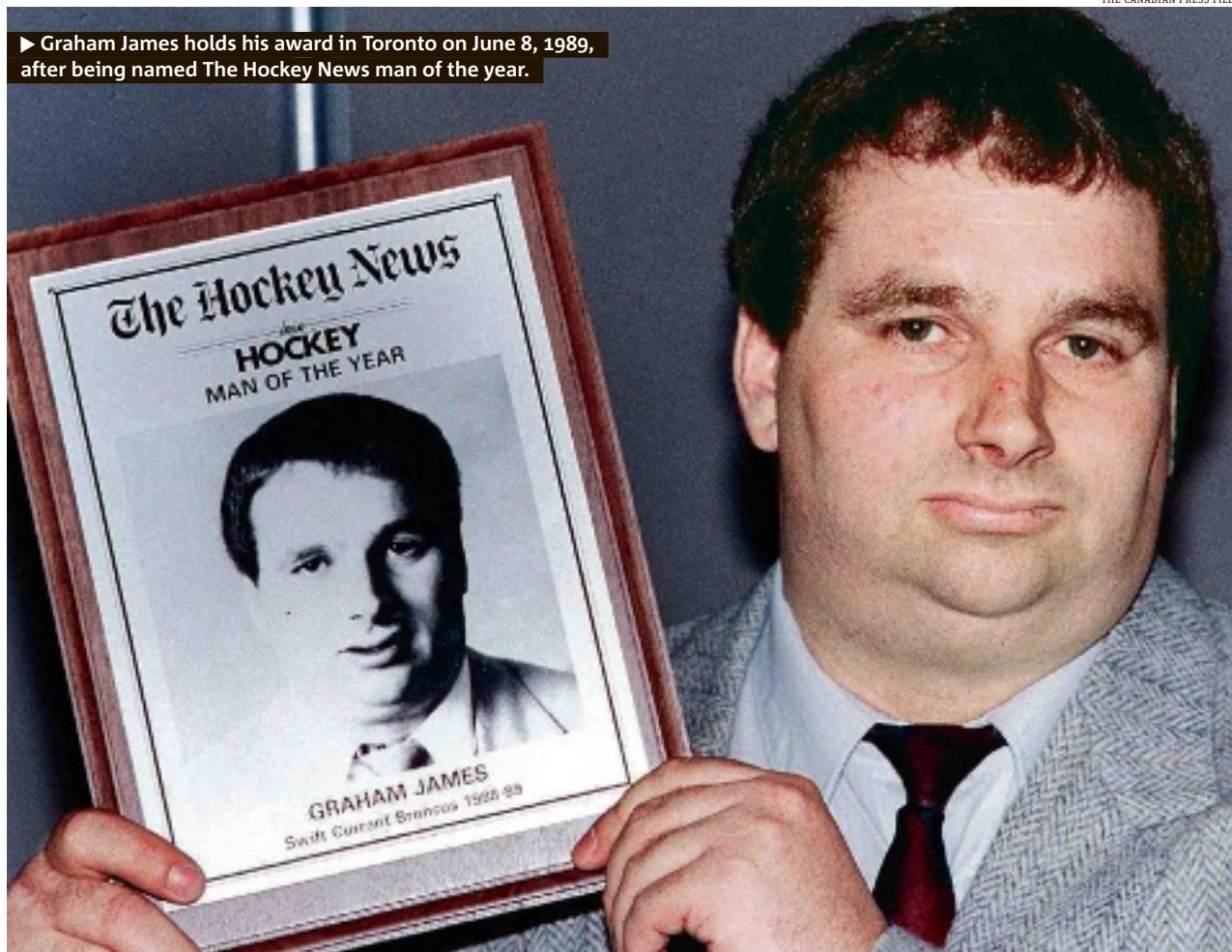
THEOREN FLEURY, EX-NHL STAR

the justice system for how it handled the James case.

"Graham James pled guilty years ago, and then he was granted a pardon after he was found in Mexico and brought back to Canada on these charges," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

► Graham James holds his award in Toronto on June 8, 1989, after being named The Hockey News man of the year.



Perimeter pact initiatives still years away

Key features of the Canada-U.S. perimeter-security pact — including a controversial new entry-exit system for crossing the 49th parallel — are three to four years from seeing the light of day.

The 29-point deal and

an accord on regulatory reform aim to streamline trade while protecting the continent from terrorist attacks and other security threats by aligning approaches and screening more people and cargo before they arrive in North

► Prime Minister Stephen Harper and U.S. President Barack Obama after a meeting at the White House yesterday.



America.

"These agreements create a new, modern border for a new century," Prime Minister Stephen Harper said at a formal ceremony in Washington, alongside U.S. President Barack Obama.

"The key that locks the door to terrorists also opens a wider gate to cross-border trade and travel."

Critics of the perimeter-security initiative argue it puts Canadian sovereignty at risk. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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China police crack child-trafficking rings

Chinese police arrested 608 suspects and rescued 178 children in busts of two separate child-trafficking networks, authorities said yesterday.

The Ministry of Public Security said prosecutors were preparing cases against the suspects, suggesting charges have yet to be filed.

Its statement posted on-

line said 5,000 police across 10 provinces co-operated for six months on the investigation and moved in to arrest the suspects last week.

Child trafficking is a big problem in China, where traditional preference for male heirs and a strict one-child policy has driven a thriving market in baby boys, who fetch a consider-

ably higher price than girls. Girls and women also are abducted and used as labourers or as brides for unwed sons.

Tens of thousands of children go missing every year, though the exact numbers of victims are difficult to obtain.

The rescued children will be put into orphanages while authorities try

to reunite them with their families, the ministry said. It didn't give the age range of the abducted children or other specifics.

State broadcaster CCTV aired footage showing female police officers cradling babies in their arms. The footage also showed more than a dozen suspects handcuffed and escorted by officers, or

lined up outside a building in Fujian province. Families who bought trafficked children would be forbidden from keeping them, a ministry official told CCTV.

The statement said police have rescued 18,518 children and 34,813 women since it started a human-trafficking campaign in 2009.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

7,000
gangs or rings that sold women or children were cracked by the police since it started a special campaign against human trafficking in April 2009.

Syrian president denies fault

► In interview, he laughs off question about whether he feels guilt for the deaths of 4,000 Syrians

Syrian President Bashar Assad said in a rare interview broadcast yesterday that he never ordered the brutal suppression of the uprising in his country and insisted only a "crazy person" would kill his own people.

"I did my best to protect the people," he told ABC's Barbara Walters during an interview at the presidential palace in the Syrian capital, Damascus. "You feel sorry for the life that has been lost, but you don't feel guilty when you don't kill people."

Assad, who commands Syria's armed forces, has sealed off the country to most outsiders while clinging to the allegation that the uprising is the work of foreign extremists, not true reform-seekers aiming to open the authoritarian political system.

The United Nations and

"No government in the world (kills) its people unless it is led by a crazy person."

BASHAR ASSAD, SYRIAN PRESIDENT

others dismiss that entirely, blaming the regime for widespread killings, rape and torture. Witnesses and activists inside Syria describe brutal repression, with government forces firing on unarmed protesters and conducting terrifying house raids in which families are dragged from their homes in the night.

"They're not my forces," Assad responded when asked if Syrian troops had cracked down too hard on protesters. "They are military forces (who) belong to the government. I don't own them."

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► Syrian President Bashar Assad poses with ABC News Anchor Barbara Walters for an interview, which aired yesterday. Assad denied he ordered the deadly crackdown on a nearly-nine-month-old uprising in his country, claiming he is not in charge of the troops behind the assault.

Assad's defence weak: Expert

Murhaf Jouejati, a Syria expert at George Washington University, said Assad's interview was both "defiant and delusional."

"He is the commander-in-chief of the armed forces," Jouejati said. "To say that the security forces do not have orders to kill or to brutalize the people — that it's maybe the mistake of some bad apples — is not a response."

But he said stonewalling was not a surprise, given the regime's actions in the past. "If he is not responsible, then we don't know what he is doing in the presidency." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Woman accused in Gadhafi plot

► Mexico says Ontario woman led plan to sneak in late dictator's son

An Ontario woman has been accused of leading an audacious plot to sneak a son of the late Libyan dictator Moammar Gadhafi and three relatives into Mexico.

The woman, Cynthia Vanier, is being held with three other suspects, said Mexico Interior Secretary Alejandro Poire.

The elaborate plan was to bring to Mexico al-Saadi Gadhafi — known for his love of professional soccer and his run-ins with police in Europe.

The plot was uncovered by Mexican intelligence agents in early September as al-Saadi was fleeing Libya shortly after his father's ouster. He never made it to Mexico, but did reach Niger, where he has been living.

The plotters allegedly jetted into Mexico, opened bank accounts and bought properties meant to be used as safe houses in several parts of the country, including one at a resort on Mexico's Pacific coast.

"The large economic resources which this criminal organization has, or had, allowed them to contract private flights," Poire told a news conference.

A Danish man allegedly served as "the logistic liaison" for the plan, Poire said.

Mexico made no mention of Moammar Gadhafi himself being involved in the plan. He was killed in Libya on Oct. 20.

The Foreign Affairs department confirmed Vanier's arrest.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The Vanier file

- Cynthia Vanier runs Vanier Consulting, a "practice dedicated to high-risk unconventional mediation work," according to a résumé.
- Vanier worked with Attawapiskat First Nation in the fall of 2009, according to her website.
- Her résumé also cites work with various other aboriginal groups, including Caledonia's Six Nations of the Grand River from 2006 to 2007.
- A woman who answered the telephone at Vanier Consulting in Mount Forest, Ont., would not give her name, and did not respond to requests for an interview.
- "I haven't heard anything about today's matters," said Vanier's Toronto-based attorney, Paul Copeland.

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► Occupy DC protesters lie across K Street before being arrested for blocking the street in downtown Washington yesterday.

Occupiers forced to leave camps

► Police in San Francisco and Washington, D.C., move in on protesters ► San Francisco raid began at 1 a.m.

Police gave protesters at San Francisco's Occupy encampment five minutes to gather belongings before taking down about 100 tents and arresting 70 people as officers dismantled the camp in an overnight raid.

About two dozen officers in riot gear remained at daybreak yesterday, down from more than 100 who carried out the raid. They blocked access to the former camp site as trash crews raked up paper and plastic bottles and removed chairs and other belongings that had accumulated there over

Injuries

"Most of the protesters went peacefully," but one officer in the San Francisco raid received minor injuries when two people threw a chair that cracked his face shield, said officer Albie Esparza.

► Richard Kriedler with Occupy SF said some protesters were injured, but he didn't have the details.

the past two months.

A handful of protesters stood by, occasionally jeering at officers but other-

wise heeding their instructions to stay back.

The movement against economic disparity and perceived corporate greed began with Occupy Wall Street in New York almost three months ago, and police have removed Occupy demonstrators there and in a number of other cities.

Also yesterday, police said 11 Occupy protesters were arrested in Washington after several dozen protesters lay down in the centre of a busy downtown intersection on K Street, home to many lobbying firms.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SECURITY FLAW

Facebook founder exposed

A Facebook security flaw revealed this week allowed users to gain access to CEO Mark Zuckerberg's private photos.

Facebook blamed a software error in a feature that lets users report inappropriate content. The company said the error was quickly

fixed, but some people were able to view a limited number of other people's photos, even if they were marked as private and meant for a small circle of friends.

The photos show that Zuckerberg, the leader of the world's largest online social network, eats, cooks and likes to spend time with his girlfriend and puppy. And he hangs out with President Barack Obama, if time permits.

The company did not say how many users were affected, or for how long. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Diver's body identified

The B.C. Coroners Service has identified the body of a scuba diver that was recovered from the Burrard Inlet back in October.

The remains of Peter Devoe, who was wearing a wetsuit and scuba gear, were found entangled in the nets of two commercial fishermen on Oct. 23. Coroner Stephen Fonseca says then 29-year-old Devoe went missing during a dive on March 13, 1985. METRO

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Governor gone bad gets 14 years

► Rod Blagojevich pleads for mercy ► But judge tells him: 'The fabric of Illinois is torn and disfigured'

A former Illinois governor was sentenced to 14 years in prison yesterday.

Minutes later, Rod Blagojevich's wife, Patti, stood up in court and fell into his arms.

He brushed tears off her cheek and then rubbed her shoulders.

Judge James Zagel said of Blagojevich: "When it is the governor who goes bad, the fabric of Illinois is torn and disfigured and not easily repaired."

Blagojevich was convicted of a wide range of corruption charges — including trying to sell U.S. President Barack Obama's vacated Senate seat to raise campaign cash or



► Rod Blagojevich, with wife Patti by his side, speaks to reporters after being sentenced yesterday.

land a high-paying job. Blagojevich, in a last plea for mercy, tried something he never had before: an apology.

After years of insisting

he was innocent, Blagojevich told the judge he has made "terrible mistakes" and he acknowledged that he broke the law.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



► Michele Zagaria under police arrest yesterday. "The government won," he said. "It's over."

SALVATORE LAPORTA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MacKay may sue MPs over heli-fuss

Defence Minister Peter MacKay, pictured, is considering legal action against MPs who accused him of lying about a ride he took aboard a search-and-rescue helicopter.

MPs have called on MacKay to apologize and even to resign over his use of military resources to shuttle him to the airport in Gander, N.L., from a vacation at a remote fishing lodge.



Documents showed some National Defence staff predicted the trip could be perceived badly, with one suggesting the pickup was only to be under the "guise" of a search-and-rescue exercise.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mobster pried from lair

Police yesterday captured Michele Zagaria, one of Italy's most-wanted mobsters. On the run since 1995, he was found in an underground bunker in his home province of Caserta. Police had located the bunker some time ago and were digging around it. Zagaria watched their progress on closed-circuit TV. He gave up without a fight.

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► Firefighters battle a wildfire near Smithville, Texas, in September.

Record year for disasters

► A dozen U.S. events each caused more than \$1B damage ► Includes wildfires, droughts, snowstorms

America's wild weather year has set another record: a dozen billion-dollar catastrophes.

The U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said yesterday that it has recalculated the number of weather disasters passing the billion-dollar mark, with two new ones, pushing 2011's total to 12. The two costly additions are the Texas, New Mexico and Arizona wildfires and the mid-June tornadoes and severe weather.

NOAA uses \$1 billion as a benchmark for the worst weather disasters.

Extreme weather in the U.S. this year has killed more than 1,000 people, according to National Weather Service Director Jack Hayes. The dozen billion-dollar disasters alone add up to \$52 billion in damage. Hayes, a meteorologist since 1970, said he has never seen a year for extreme weather like this, calling it "the deadly, destructive and relentless 2011."

But this isn't just about numbers and records, it's about people, said NOAA Administrator Jane Lubchenco.

"Each of these events is a huge disaster for victims who experience them," Lubchenco said in an email to The Associated Press. "They are an unprecedented challenge for the nation." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Catastrophic

This year's total of a dozen billion-dollar calamities matches the number for all of the 1980s, even when the older figures are adjusted for inflation.

Scientists blame an unlucky combination of global warming and freak chance. They say even with the long-predicted increase in weather extremes triggered by manmade climate change, 2011 in the U.S. was wilder than they predicted. The six large outbreaks of twisters, which were especially deadly this year, can't be attributed to global warming, but increased droughts, heat waves and wildfires are expected to increase with global warming, scientists say. More people are also living in areas that are prone to disasters.

And this year's total may not stop at 12. Officials are still adding up the damage from the Tropical Storm Lee and the pre-Halloween Northeast snowstorm, and so far they are both at the \$750 million mark. And there's still nearly a month left in the year.

Incest no biggie for bedbugs

Bedbugs aren't just sleeping with you. They're sleeping with each other.

Researchers now say that the creepy bugs have a special genetic gift: withstand- ing incest.

It turns out that unlike most creatures, bedbugs are able to inbreed with close relatives and still pro-

duce generally healthy off- spring. That means that if just a few bedbugs survive in a building after treat- ment, they repopulate quickly.

Coby Schal and Ed Vargo, of North Carolina State University, presented research on genetic diversity in bedbug populations on Tuesday

in Philadelphia, at the annual meeting of the Ameri- can Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.

"We kept discovering the same thing. Within a given apartment, or even a given building, there was ex- tremely low genetic diversi- ty," said Schal.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► Bedbugs can repopulate quickly if they are not all destroyed.

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Pearl Harbor group disbands

- Still 7,000 to 8,000 survivors
- But about 2,700 are in poor health

Veterans from Pearl Harbor observed the 70th anniversary of the attack yesterday with a solemn ceremony at the site of the Japanese bombing, as an aging and dwindling group of survivors announced it would disband at the end of the month.

"It was time. Some of the requirements became a burden," William Muehleib, president of the Pearl Harbors Survivors Association, said after the ceremony. He added that most of the survivors have realized there are other things they'd like to do at their age.

Survivors will be able to attend future commemoration ceremonies on their own. Local chapters of the group will function as long as they have members and survivors can gather social-

Historical Event

The Japanese attack on Dec. 7, 1941, killed 2,390 Americans and brought the United States into the Second World War.

About 3,000 people, including U.S. Navy Secretary Ray Mabus and military leaders, attended this year's anniversary at a site overlooking the sunken USS Arizona.

ly, but they will no longer have a formal, national organization.

The group's announcement came as President Barack Obama hailed veterans of the bombing in a statement proclaiming yesterday as "National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



DAVID JOLES/THE STAR TRIBUNE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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News in brief

Man arrested for UK phone hacking

PRIVACY. British police said yesterday they have arrested another suspect in their investigation of phone hacking by the News of the World, the Rupert Murdoch-owned tabloid shut down earlier this year.

The media identified the 41-year-old man as Glenn Mulcaire, a private investigator who was jailed for hacking into the voicemail messages of royal staff while working for the News of the World.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Arrests made in Italy's organic food fraud

FOOD. Italian police have seized 2,500 tonnes of grains, fruits and soy products that were falsely labelled as organic in a food-fraud ring that exported phoney organic products across Europe.

Italy's financial police in Vernoia said seven people were arrested Tuesday

in the operation that uncovered the complicity of officials in several cities who were responsible for certifying food as organic.

Police said some of it remained in Italy, but products were also exported to the Netherlands, Germany, Spain, France, Belgium, Hungary, Austria and Switzerland.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

India rejects foreign retailers

BUSINESS. India yesterday suspended its plan to open its huge retail sector to foreign companies such as Walmart in a reversal seen as a major capitulation to political opponents that further weakens the administration.

The business community had hailed the initial decision just two weeks ago, and the government and some economists said foreign retailers would bring better prices for farmers and lower prices for consumers.

But opposition parties protested, saying the local mom-and-pop stores that are the heart of Indian retailing would be crushed.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Morning-after pill won't hit shelves

In a surprise move with election-year implications, the Obama administration's top health official overruled her own drug regulators and stopped the Plan B morning-after pill from moving onto drugstore shelves next to the condoms.

The Food and Drug Administration was preparing to lift the age limit yesterday and allow younger teens, who today must get a prescription, to buy it without restriction. That would have made Plan B the nation's first over-the-counter emergency contraceptive.

11
Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius intervened with the FDA's proposal at the 11th hour, deciding that young girls, as young as 11 shouldn't be able to buy the pill on their own.

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Ottawa offers some evacuations

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

► Minister indicates willingness to retrofit sportsplex and healing centre as short-term accommodations on northern Ontario reserve

The government is prepared to evacuate some residents of a northern Ontario reserve until better housing can be brought in, the Aboriginal Affairs minister says.

The other immediate solution to the reserve's housing shortage would be to retrofit a sportsplex and a healing centre as short-term accommodations, John Duncan told At-

tawapiskat Chief Theresa Spence in a letter sent yesterday.

Duncan said an assessment of the community suggests 15 modular homes would address the needs of families currently living in shacks and tents.

Duncan said the manager is prepared to buy the homes immediately so they can be delivered as soon as the winter roads

open.

Evacuation or the retrofit are two options for the interim, he said.

"I again cannot stress enough the need to work with the third party manager, our government and our partners to ensure the health and safety of the community," Duncan wrote.

"I believe the two options above are fair and

reasonable offers."

Ottawa removed the band's power over its own finances last week. But on Monday band members told the government-appointed manager to leave the reserve.

It remains up to the band to accept or reject the offered solutions. Spence was not immediately available for comment.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



► Attawapiskat Chief Theresa Spence during a press conference in Ottawa on Tuesday

NDP view

► NDP Leader Nycole Turmel says getting winter supplies to Attawapiskat won't be easy, and military support is needed, given the extreme weather and lack of a road into the community.

Quebec aboriginal communities

GENERATORS TO SOLVE POWER WOES

More than a dozen generators will be used to provide power in two northern Quebec aboriginal communities that are coping with frigid

temperatures.

A power outage occurred Monday in Chisasibi and Wemindji in the province's power-producing heartland, off

the east coast of James Bay.

About 5,200 people were left in the dark initially.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Extra-heavy snowfall predicted for Ontario

JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The kind of winter you're in for depends entirely on which side of the country you live in, but take heart, Canada — it's not expected to be a particularly brutal season.

Residents of Western Canada should hunker down for a colder-than-normal winter while those on the East Coast can look forward to a milder season, according to predictions for the country from meteorologists at AcuWeather.

But when it comes to snow, the residents of Ontario and Quebec should ready their shovels for a little more of the white stuff than normal.

Northern and central

► A man walks past the Calgary, Alta., skyline during a deep freeze on Jan. 31.



Ontario can expect heavier-than-normal snowfall while southwestern parts of the province are predicted to have milder temperatures, which could lead to more rain.

Ottawa, Toronto, London, Sudbury and North Bay will likely see a stormier, snowier winter, but it won't be that frigid, experts say.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Trapper rescued after two weeks

A trapper stranded for more than two weeks in northern Saskatchewan has returned home safe.

Mounties used a helicopter to rescue 63-year-old Phillip Bear from his remote cabin on Reindeer Lake.

Bear left his home community of Southend in a boat on Nov. 10 and was supposed to return four days later.

But the lake froze and he was unable to get back.

His worried family contacted RCMP, and officers flew into the area on Dec. 1.

Officers say they found Bear warm and healthy.

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Smartphones are vulnerable

- Mobile devices are attractive targets for data theft
- Third-party apps can open door for malware

Cybercrimes are becoming more mobile.

As more smartphones and tablets are being used, cyber-thieves aren't just targeting personal computers to steal information for financial gain, say antivirus security experts.

"With the proliferation of mobile devices, that's just where the next threat landscape is going," Symantec's Lynn Hargrove said of what's expected in cyberspace in 2012.

"More people will have a mobile phone or a mobile device than a PC," she said.

Young men between the ages of 18 and 31 are targets because of the large amount of time they spend online every week, said Hargrove, director of consumer solutions for Symantec Inc. Known as the "millennium males," they spend more than 49 hours

Other threats

David Craig of PwC Canada says there are other ways to exploit personal data for financial gain or embarrassment.

► **Electronic medical records**, often stored on patients' devices, are vulnerable.

► **Any machines connected to the Internet** — from smart TVs to gaming systems to smart meters and home-security systems and even wireless printers — are open to attack.

sumer solutions for Symantec Inc. Known as the "millennium males," they spend more than 49 hours

online a week, she said. "They're accessing the Internet everywhere," Hargrove said. "They're big on using free Wi-Fi."

Google's Android operating system, used in smartphones and tablets by manufacturers such as Samsung, HTC and Motorola, is vulnerable, experts say.

Mobile malware is on the rise, especially with the Android devices, said Doug Cooke, director of sales engineering at McAfee Canada. Cooke warned against users downloading Android apps from third-party marketplaces, noting that malware writers can take an existing app and embed their own code in it.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stolen puppies recovered

Police say the final two British bulldog puppies that were stolen from a pet store in Ajax, Ont., have been recovered and a suspect faces charges.

Police say someone forced their way into The Puppy Store early Monday and made off with the four puppies.

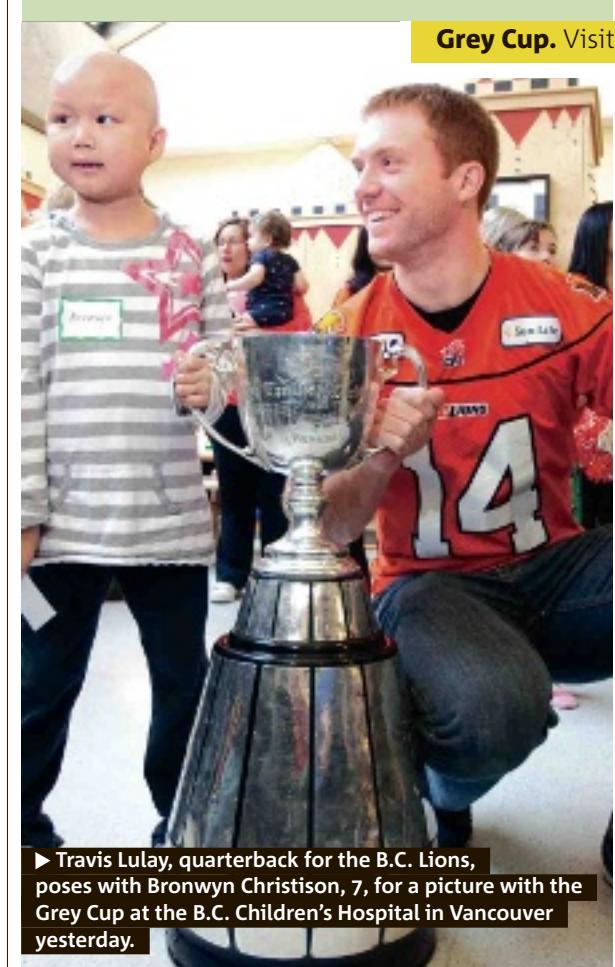
Investigators located one of the pups — valued at \$2,000 each — for sale on the Internet website Kijiji.

That led to the arrest of two people at a Toronto restaurant and the recovery of one puppy. A second puppy was found later Tuesday during a raid on an Ajax home.

Police say the final two puppies were recovered Tuesday night in Toronto.

James Colley, 37, of Ajax, is charged with break-and-enter offences, possession of property obtained by crime and driving while under suspension. A second person was released without charges.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



► Travis Lulay, quarterback for the B.C. Lions, poses with Bronwyn Christison, 7, for a picture with the Grey Cup at the B.C. Children's Hospital in Vancouver yesterday.

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Meeting someone special

The Lions won 34-23 over the Winnipeg Blue Bombers on November 27 in Vancouver.

News in brief**Austria amends anthem**

VIENNA. Austria's national anthem now pays homage not only to the country's great sons but also to its favoured daughters.

Parliament voted yesterday to accept two text changes to the hymn. "Home you are to great sons" is being replaced by "Home to great daughters and sons," while "brother choirs" has been amended to "choirs of joy." The change goes into effect Jan. 1.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Maritimes braces for 'weather bomb'

HALIFAX. Residents of the

Maritimes are being warned to brace for the arrival today of a so-called weather bomb.

Meteorologist Tracey Talbot of Environment Canada says wind speeds between 70 and 100 kilometres per hour are forecast for northern Nova Scotia, P.E.I. and northern New Brunswick, where snowfall warnings have also been issued.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

More charges laid in cup riot

VANCOUVER. Police say charges have been approved against two more people suspected of participating in Vancouver's Stanley Cup riot last June.

Insp. Les Yeo says the latest charges, which include participating in a riot and mischief, are against 19- and 20-year-old men, one from Surrey and one from Coquitlam.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Singing cop gets pink slip

► YouTube lip-sync star sings his last song with Indonesian police force

Different tune

- Kamaru, who has a pierced tongue, said it was a relief to be rid of his crisp, khaki uniform. "I always had to behave," he told the English-language Jakarta Post.
- Kamaru told reporters he wanted to try to sing. And if it didn't work out, he's not concerned: "There are many jobs out there," he said. "I could always be a motorcycle taxi driver."

"Who does he think he is?" a clearly frustrated police spokeswoman, Lt. Col. Lisma Dunggio, said yesterday from his hometown. "What made him famous was his uniform."

But the 26-year-old Kamaru told reporters he wanted to give singing a real shot. And he wasn't afraid of failure.

The video of Kamaru trying to lift the spirits of a heartbroken colleague by shimmying and lip-synching to the Bollywood hit Chaiyya Chaiyya went viral in April.



► Police officer Norman Kamaru dances with a fan during a show last April in Jakarta.

ly on TV talk shows in full uniform.

As a new, unexpected asset to the force — widely considered one of the country's most corrupt institutions — Kamaru started appearing regular-

work.

Saud Usman Nasution, spokesman for the national police, said Kamaru was dishonourably discharged on Tuesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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HOW TO HOST AN OFFICE CHRISTMAS PARTY

HE SAYS ...

JOHN MAZEROLLE

METRO



As one of Canada's top 605 columnists, I'm often asked advice on how to throw the perfect office Christmas party.

To me, the key has always been to think about fun and merry-making, so that you can avoid those things whenever possible.

You don't want to get sued, do you?

As most holiday partygoers know, parties have changed over the years from alcohol-fuelled blowouts where you might see Barb the secretary drink Kahlua from a shoe, to glorified potlucks where the wildest thing is the Worst Christmas Sweater contest.

Nowadays everyone seems scared, rightly or not, that they'll get sued if a partygoer drinks too much and goes all Darwin Awards on them. We, as hosts, fear our own guests' stupidity. (Eventually a drunk driver will sue the descendants of Sir Isaac Newton, whose famous forebear was reckless enough to have discovered the laws of motion, which have caused us all so much harm.)

My usual advice for the Christmas-party problem is to take extra precautions: serve alcohol, but only responsibly; get everyone to sign waivers (make sure the pencils aren't too sharp!); and place written warnings throughout the party explaining the possible danger represented by each item, including co-workers.

But this year I'm advocating something different, mostly because I want to see how it works out. This year, you should throw a party so wild that everyone will either forget what happened or be too embarrassed to bring it up, let alone sue.

John's unethical office-party tips:

- Start by picking a party theme. Tequila or Rum are two good ideas to get you started.
- Don't be concerned with unnecessary party frivolities, such as food.
- Spike everything, including the non-alcoholic beer. It's Christmas.
- As guests arrive, tell them it's a "social mixer" and seat them in unusual pairings — for example, your co-worker's husband with the blond intern, or Ms. Phillips in finance with the mail boy. Playfully point out the mistletoe over each spot.
- Provide a gift bag that includes a game of Twister, several lampshades and a pair of Santa-themed underpants.
- For the coup de grâce, supply everyone with disposable cameras.

As people are stumbling out the door, provide them with "door prizes" containing a perfume- or cologne-stained handkerchief, a napkin with a phone number on it and a strand of blond hair.

If all goes well (how could it not?), everyone will have the time of their life and never speak of it again.

Oh, and if something horrible and/or tragic happens because of my idea, then remember your legal recourse. Sue Isaac Newton.

Read more of John Mazerolle's columns at metronews.ca/hesays



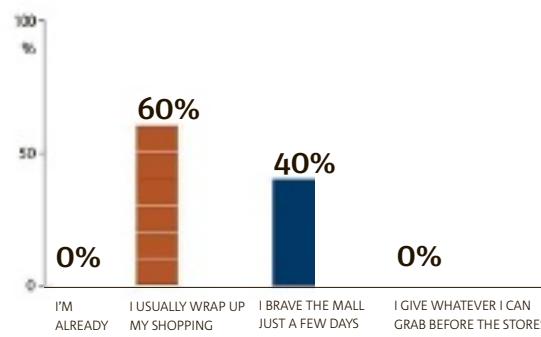
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How early do you finish Christmas shopping?



Local tweets



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Toronto fans are trying to keep Sens off All Star team - don't let 'em. nhl.com.vote & vote 30 times! #ottawa #Sens20

@matt_ottawa_26: Over-crowding on #OCTRANSPO is a major problem! Build that LRT! #ottcity #ottawa #Packedbusesmakemeill!

@In_Hiding: My favourite singer in Ottawa again! #NekoCase can't wait.

GETTY IMAGES

Birthday treats for polar bear

KINGUSSIE, SCOTLAND. Is Walker the polar bear planning The Great Escape? Probably not, as he seems quite content after celebrating his third birthday at Highland Wildlife Park in the Scottish Highlands. After playing with his new toy — a workman's hard hat — he ate an ice birthday cake, full of fish, fruit and vegetables.

• METRO WORLD NEWS

370 kilograms is Walker's current weight. He is small now; the average polar bear can weigh over 600 kilograms.

He still waits for a special one

MATING. Walker may have to play with that hard hat a little longer after his date with a mate has been delayed. Zookeepers had brought in a potential female mate but she turned out to be already pregnant. Walker once had a female companion, but she had to be put down in April due to ill health. • METRO WORLD NEWS

"Young bears are very inquisitive, especially Walker."

UNA RICHARDSON, ZOOKEEPER AT HIGHLAND WILDLIFE PARK

Daily Zoom





2 scene

Parade

Rocker Bret Michaels and Grammy-winning singer Cyndi Lauper are among the celebrities heading to New Orleans for Carnival 2012. Orpheus parade organizers named the pair as their celebrity monarchs yesterday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Meet mayors, sing songs

► Local indie rockers Hollerado learning lessons on the road ► Return home to play Ottawa

BACKSTAGE PASS

JEN TRAPLIN

METRO OTTAWA



After grinding it out on the road throughout all of 2011, Manotick indie band Hollerado will close out the year in front of their hometown crowd.

"Finally," exclaims front man Menno Versteeg. "We haven't played Ottawa in

forever. I'm really, really excited."

The band has criss-crossed North America numerous times in 2011, most recently for their Meet the Mayor Tour.

"This past year, it's been a real job for the first time and that means we played a lot," says Versteeg, who is quick to point out that's not a bad thing. "It was amazing to learn what, if all goes well, the rest of our lives are going to be like."

While on tour, the guys in Hollerado make a point

of meeting people in the communities they play. With the recent Meet the Mayor Tour, the band figured it would give them the chance to get to know those towns even better.

"We definitely like meeting fans in the communities we play in. It's one of my favourite things about touring," Versteeg admits. "It was really neat to meet a side of the city we've never seen before and never really thought we would see."

The guys in Hollerado expected that none of the

mayors would want to meet with them. They were wrong.

"It turns out Canadian mayors are extremely accessible," boasts Versteeg.

That is, except for Toronto Mayor Rob Ford, who declined a meeting.

"He did send us an 8-x-10 colour glossy picture of himself though," the front man says with a laugh.

One mayor that really stood out to Versteeg is Keith Hobbs, the Mayor of Thunder Bay.

"He really changed my perception on Conserva-

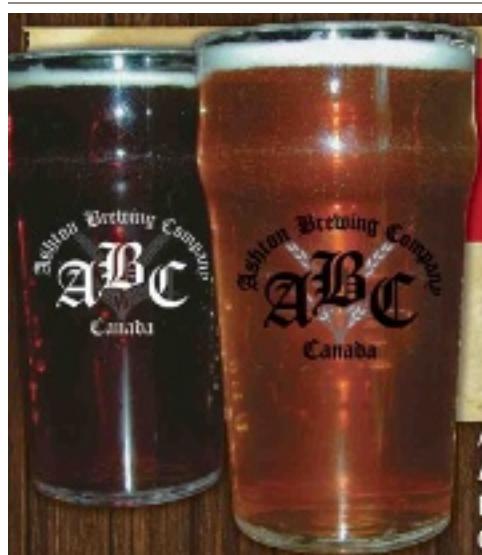
tive politicians," says Versteeg.

"The things that I care about, he was really, really passionate about. He was a good, honest politician which I thought was really nice."

Of course, that's just one of many cool memories of the road for him and the rest of Hollerado.

"We're just so amazed that, through music, we get to have these experiences," he says.

"The only thing I've learned in this is to not expect anything."



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Cannonball misfires for "Myth-Busters" TV show, rips through California house and minivan



Sex and sensibility

► Two Broke Girls has a sweet core surrounded by stereotypes and sex jokes

Two Broke Girls co-creator Michael Patrick King says he has no plans to alter his hit sitcom to placate critics who say it perpetuates racial stereotypes.

"I'm not going to change. No, absolutely not," King said in a recent interview from his Hollywood office. "I believe that anybody, when you see them for the first time, you judge them based on the surface."

Two Broke Girls — starring Kat Dennings and Beth Behrs as down-on-their-luck waitresses trying to make an extra buck — has

become one of the fall TV season's few breakout hits.

The CBS show has an old-school feel and a big heart — at its core is the odd-couple friendship between street-smart Max (Dennings) and high-strung heiress-turned-pauper Caroline (Behrs).

"When we started out our joke was that we were going to sell it as Laverne & Shirley on crack," says King, an executive producer on Sex and the City.

"I felt that there was something missing (from TV), which was an old-fashioned sitcom for a young

sensibility. And so I decided that it would be really fun to try to do two really funny girls, because I LOVE funny women."

While the comic chemistry between Dennings and Behrs has received consistent kudos, some critics have taken issue with the show's supporting players, including Oleg (Jonathan Kite) a lascivious Russian fry cook, bumbling Korean diner owner Han (Matthew Moy), and Earl (Gar-

rett Morris), the restaurant's "jive-talking" African-American host. King seems at a loss to explain why there's been so

PHOTOS: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► In Two Broke Girls, two down-on-their-luck waitresses are struggling to make an extra buck.

Hot show, cool climate

► Frozen Planet takes a look at Earth's polar regions ► How climate change is impacting these ecosystems

Discovery Channel's documentary series Frozen Planet will premiere March 18, and will encompass seven episodes including a program on climate change hosted by David Attenborough.

On that seventh episode, the famed British naturalist will investigate what rising temperatures will mean for the planet and life on it.

The network made the announcement Tuesday.

Frozen Planet is described as "the ultimate portrait of our Earth's polar regions." A co-production of Discovery Channel and BBC, it was four years in the making and comes from the team behind Planet Earth, the acclaimed series that aired on Discovery in 2007.

The Frozen Planet team filmed in every nation inside the Arctic and Antarctic Circles during 2,356 days in the field, 1 1/2 years at sea, more than six months on the sea ice and 134 hours beneath that ice,

You see sequences that have never been captured on film before"

DISCOVERY AND TLC NETWORKS
HEAD EILEEN O'NEILL

according to Discovery.

Among the sights: the birth of an iceberg bigger than the largest building on Earth, a caterpillar with antifreeze in its veins and tiny baby polar bears, which at birth are 25 per cent smaller than human babies.

Frozen Planet will be narrated by Alec Baldwin.

Discovery and TLC networks head Eileen O'Neill calls the series remarkable "because it's so surprising. You see sequences that have never been captured on film before — a world you would expect to see in a Narnia film, not on this planet. You see an environment that's changing, if not disappearing, in our generation."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

much chatter about those characters: "It's current, it's something to talk about. It's maybe a little in your face, I don't know," he says.

He notes that archetypes are commonplace in writing and says the show is reflective of his experience in the Big Apple.

"Anyone who's ever lived in New York has walked through an enormous melting pot of people. So for me, to do a show where you're not exploring

race would be absurd in Brooklyn, N.Y." he says, adding that the supporting characters will become more fleshed out as 2 Broke Girls progresses.

While 2 Broke Girls has an undeniable sweetness at its core, some critics have also taken umbrage with the crude sex jokes peppered throughout each 30-minute episode. King says such vulgarity is simply a reflection of reality.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



► Polar Bears are one of many arctic animals threatened by climate change.

No sleep until Cleveland

► Beastie Boys, Guns N' Roses and Chili Peppers are among the latest to be inducted into 2012 Rock Hall class

Welcome to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Guns N' Roses.

The seminal rock band of the late 1980s and early '90s, best known for hits like Welcome to the Jungle, Sweet Child O' Mine and November Rain, leads the 2012 class of inductees announced on Wednesday. Also making the cut is the hip-hop trio Beastie Boys; rockers the Red Hot Chili Peppers; the late singer/songwriter Laura Nyro; Donovan; and influential British rock group The Small Faces/The Faces, which included Rod Stewart and Rolling Stones guitarist Ronnie Wood.

Nyro, who wrote such hits the 5th Dimension's Wedding Bell Blues and Blood Sweat & Tears' When I Die, is the only female act to make it this time around. The hall passed on Donna Summer, Joan Jett and the Blackhearts, Heart and Rufus with Chaka Khan, who were on the ballot for 2012.

But it wasn't just women who were denied entry into the rock hall for next year. Voters also

Cleveland

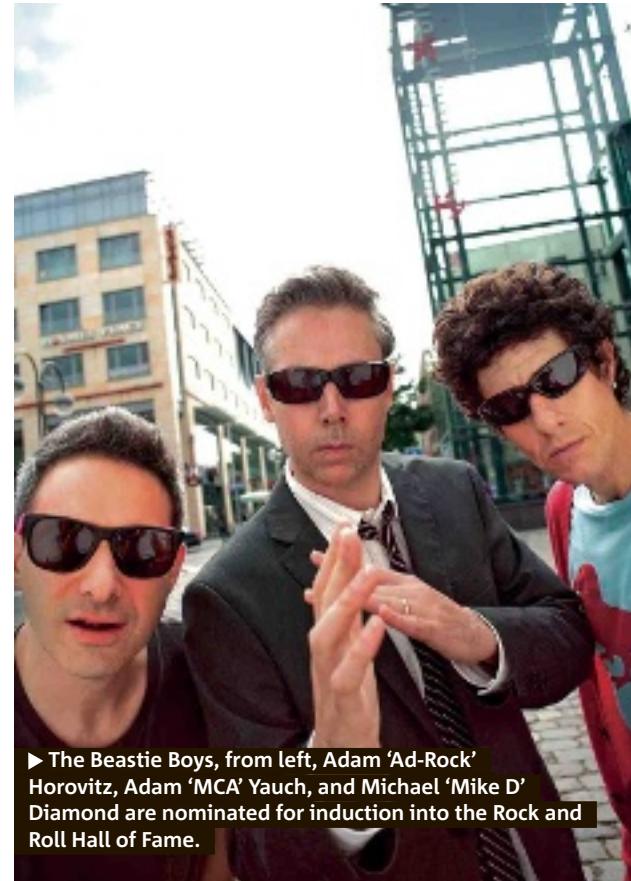
Where and when it will take place.

► The ceremony The Rock and Roll Hall of fame induction ceremony will be held in Cleveland, where the rock hall is based, on April 14.

passed on hip-hop pioneers Eric B. & Rakim, War, the Cure and the Spinners.

Guns N' Roses blazed on the rock scene in 1987 with their official debut, Appetite for Destruction. Fronted by siren-voiced singer Axl Rose, with Slash and Izzy Stradlin on guitars, Duff McKagan on bass and Steven Adler on drums, the group dominated music with its aggressive rock grooves. Early in their career they were criticized for lyrics in the song One in a Million deemed as homophobic, misogynistic and racist. They were also defined by their dysfunction, gleefully embodying the mantra of sex, drugs and rock and roll.

HANDOUT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The band sold millions and millions of albums, providing a sharp contrast to a pop world defined by

the likes of Madonna and Michael Jackson.

But the group's turmoil, often on display before the

whole world, would cause the core to fall apart by 1996. Their induction should lead to talk once

again of a possible reunion, at least for the induction ceremony.

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Big night, less than great expectations

► The cast of New Year's Eve shares their lacklustre memories of evenings filled with Auld Lang Syne

 RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

The cast of the new Garry Marshall film, New Year's Eve, had a great time making the movie, but haven't always had the best time on December 31st.

Josh Duhamel says the key to enjoying the night is keeping "expectations low" and leaving by 10:30 p.m.

Hector Elizondo, who has appeared in all 17 of Marshall's films, agrees.

"Expectations low, definitely," he says. "I did have one lousy New Years, because I expected something from it." He tells a story about being a musician "in the days of rocks and caves,

before they knew the world was round."

His jazz quartet scored a show — "New Year's Eve was the big gig," he says, "that's when you made \$50!" — to discover the audience didn't go for their New York brand of cool jazz. "They were like an oil painting looking at us. That was a big let down for us"

"When I stopped wanting my New Year's Eve to be perfect is when it started working out right," chimes in Hillary Swank, who plays the producer of the Times Square New Year's Eve show in the all-star film. "When I was young I was always looking for the best party to ring in the New

Year, and I always ended up in a car saying, (sadly) 'Happy New Year.'"

"I got to kiss the girl I really liked, and then she turned around and kissed seven other people," says director Garry Marshall. "Not a good night."

But not all his end of the year experiences have been bad. In the early '60s he met his wife Barbara at a New Year's Eve party, and the two are still married. In fact she has a cameo in the movie playing a nurse.

Abigail Breslin may have an Oscar nomination under her belt, but that doesn't mean she can do whatever she wants on New Years.

"My parents are cool,"



► New Year's Eve star Abigail Breslin admits in real life her mom would never let her venture out on her own to Times Square on Dec. 31.

says the 15-year-old actress, "they let me do things." But would they let her behave like her on-screen character and go to the biggest New

Year's party on earth?

"I was saying the other day in an interview, 'I'm not really sure my mom would let me do New Year's

Eve in Times Square.'

And she was like, 'You're right. I wouldn't.' So I don't think that's going to be happening any time soon."



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Bryce faces the hard truth that he may, possibly, have a hint of writer's block. Ok he has a massive case of writer's block. But not to be humbled, Bryce is about to discover that a pretty girl and changing one small habit can be inspiring.

New episodes post every Tuesday and Thursday. Watch at www.facebook.com/OriginalsTheSeries



Today in awkward divorce stories

► Moore, J.Lo have unpleasant encounters with their exes

THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON
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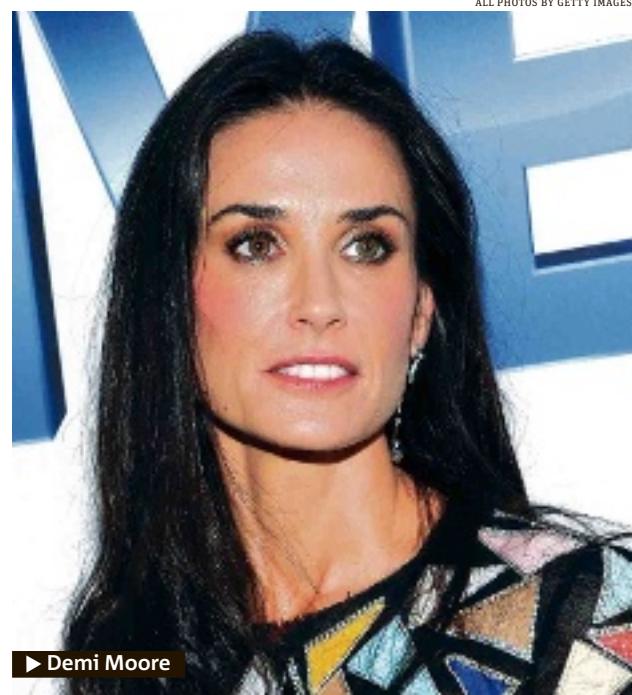
All of those A-list celebs going through divorces? Things are getting awwwkward!

First up in cringe-worthy separation stories: While Demi Moore was having dinner with a friend at a private club in West Hollywood recently, she couldn't help noticing soon-to-be ex-husband Ashton Kutcher dining nearby.

"She approached his table," a source tells Us Weekly. "He gave her a hug, and they spoke for a few minutes." The source describes the couple's chat as "polite" but "very awkward."

At least it wasn't as bad as what went down recently with Jennifer Lopez and her soon-to-be-ex-husband Marc Anthony.

Anthony apparently refused to shoot his Latin reality TV show Q'Viva with



► Demi Moore

Lopez because of her new relationship with 24-year-old backup dancer Casper Smart.

A source told Star magazine: "Marc and J.Lo had a tense conference call when she was in Morocco. Inevitably, their discussion boiled down to her new boyfriend (Smart)

and Marc made the decision not to work with Jennifer last week as a result."

Call me crazy, but maybe everything can be described as "tense" when you decide to work with someone you are going through a contentious divorce with.

Baldwin doesn't fly the friendly skies

Alec Baldwin claims he was kicked off an American Airlines flight for playing the Scrabble-like game Words with Friends on his phone.

"Flight attendant on American reamed me out (for) playing (Words with Friends) while we sat at the gate, not moving," the actor posted to Twitter.

Baldwin was eventually removed from the plane and forced to take another flight, though his rep laughs off the situation. "He loves Words with Friends so much that he was willing to



► Alec Baldwin

leave a plane for it," spokesman Matthew Hitzik says.

But some sources say it wasn't as simple as all that. Other passengers claim

Baldwin was also talking on the phone, and he reportedly became "violent and aggressive" toward the airline staff, according to Hollyscoop. ● METRO

Lohan to talk to Ellen

Lindsay Lohan is looking to unveil her Playboy spread on daytime television, as she's chosen Ellen DeGeneres' show for her only magazine-related interview, according to Hollyscoop.

"Lindsay has agreed to do one media interview during the on-sale period of her issue, and has chosen Ellen. Lindsay will not be doing any additional interviews to promote her pictorial," a spokesman for the magazine says.

● METRO

Celebrity tweets



The more tape you use to wrap a present the crazier you are
@WhitneyCummings



@kathygriffin

Since I'm nominated 4 a GRAMMY 4 my comedy album "50 & NOT pregnant" don't u think my GRAMMY date should b @JustinBieber??



@eddieizzard
I've now run barefoot for 6 days in a row. Feet are complaining and getting stronger at the same time



@thomaslennon
"she's got legs and knows how to use them" is not that great of a compliment.



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Host with the most...style

► The garland is hung, the chestnuts are roasting, the turkey's in the oven ► But what to wear?

One more thing to add to the to-do list for your holiday party: Find an outfit that creates a celebratory mood, is welcoming and warm (but not hot), can hide a little sauce splatter and has pockets to stash remotes, phones and, for the ladies, lip gloss.

It's the delicate balance of being chic and comfortable.

"I can't imagine any more pressure when you're putting on a party — when you are so focused on wine and food — and you have to look beautiful as well," says Simon Kneen, creative director of Banana Republic.

"Men have it a little easier, but you still have to make it look effortless and easy to manage."

Dressing for the role of host is a little bit different from a guest, with many more practical considerations. Just like every other aspect of the party, seasoned, stylish party-throwers say you'll likely want to do as much preplanning as you can.

Even last month, Kneen knew what he'd be wearing next time he entertained: a poplin shirt, sleeves rolled, with a tie. Meanwhile, Manhattan-based designer Shoshanna Gruss will pull one of her many cocktail dresses out of her closet and pair it with a chunky necklace or sparkly cuff bracelet.

"I have some fun statement pieces that I don't get to wear often," she says. "You're setting the rules so



► Tyler Thoreson, head of Gilt Groupe's menswear editorial and creative divisions, likes a deep-red, fine-wale pair of cords for men. "It's an injection of holiday without going overboard," he says.



► Banana Republic

► Shoshanna

► Shoshanna

you know you'll be appropriate."

It would be a letdown, she adds, for guests who have put thought into their outfits to find the hosts in something they'd wear any other night.

"It feels funny to put on a dress and high heels at home, when you know you're not leaving, but it sets the tone," Gruss says. "Your guests will appreciate it."

Minnie Mortimer says she likes to emerge from her bedroom all dressed up, especially now that she lives in more casual Los Angeles after growing up in New York and Palm Beach, Fla.

This year, Mortimer will jazz up her look with a glittery hair pin. "I really like the holidays to be about a little bit of sparkle. It's hard to do the rest of the time or it looks too much, but during the holidays, it looks appropriate," she says.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Festive face

- Makeup should be maintenance-free, says Ricky Wilson, Dior Beauty's celebrity makeup artist.
- "You have to keep in mind that you have many people looking at you with little or no time to look at yourself."
- His picks include false eyelashes or at least waterproof mascara, and liquid eyeliner.



Gift picks

For the colleague

Thanks to things like Secret Santa, you can often find yourself in a position where you have to buy a gift for someone you don't know all that well.

TankBooks's series of literary classics redesigned as iconic cigarette packaging is a good solution because it combines universally appealing reading (Ernest Hemingway, Rudyard Kipling and Leo Tolstoy, for instance) with cool design.

tankmagazine.com

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Indian elegance in tweed and silk at spectacular Chanel show worthy of a Maharaja

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Jeanne Space



In this hectic modern world, Twitter has become a cool and succinct way of communicating. It allows me to be accessible, instantly speak my mind, and connects me with all kinds of people. Whether it's a fashion question, or you just want to comment on life's bigger picture, I'd love to hear from you.



@Jeanne_Beker:
If you could wear only 3 pieces of jewelry, what would they be?

- **@WholsArlette:** A cocktail ring, chandelier earrings and a brooch
- **@Shamilajiva:** A set of harem stacking rings, classic honey comb earrings, and a small diamond talisman. Or a Labradorite Boa. Timeless!
- **@margotaustin:** Easy: wedding band, engagement ring, diamond earrings -- chic, simple and all gifts from my husband. #truelove
- **@KarleighSergio** My gold heart locket from Birks, my "dream" necklace, and my mom's engagement ring that she handed down to me when I turned 16.



► @Jeanne_Beker: Working on the future of EDIT, for fashion jewelry yet to come! Stay tuned. Exciting things ahead!

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Get a leg up with beautiful boots

► Cover up your gams in some glammed-up galoshes

There's fall and spring, winter and summer — and there's boot season. For many fashion fans, that's the best time of year.

Chances are you've broken out the cowboy boots and jeans, riding boots and leggings and maybe your best black work trousers and those cute high-heel booties you bought last year.

They're all easy, almost no-fail pairings. Finding the right skirt to go with boots, however, is more likely to trip you up, especially this particular season when it seems anything goes with hemlines.

Do long skirts get tall shafts or shorter ones? What's the rule on miniskirts? And can functional weather-friendly boots meet a fashion-forward midiskirt somewhere on the middle of the calf?

"Boots can do it better

than almost anything when it comes to pulling your look together, but it also can cut you up," says celebrity stylist Cristina Ehrlich.

She adds: "You have to put your outfit on. If your eye goes straight for the foot, then something isn't right. You want a full 'look.'

Since proportion matters, she suggests every outfit get the mirror test because what works for one skirt might not for the next, even if they're similar styles.

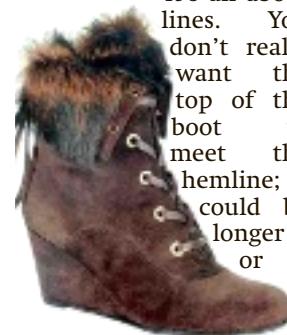
It's all about lines. You don't really want the top of the boot to meet the hemline; it could be longer or

shorter — and filled in, when needed, with opaque tights, says Jen Ford, fashion news director at Lucky magazine.

Ehrlich, a style spokeswoman for Via Spiga, says the most foolproof boot choice is a to-the-knee shaft and a wedge heel, probably in black suede. But, she adds, you'd be surprised how easy it is to incorporate a dark purple, bottle green or grey suede into an existing wardrobe, even one rooted in black.

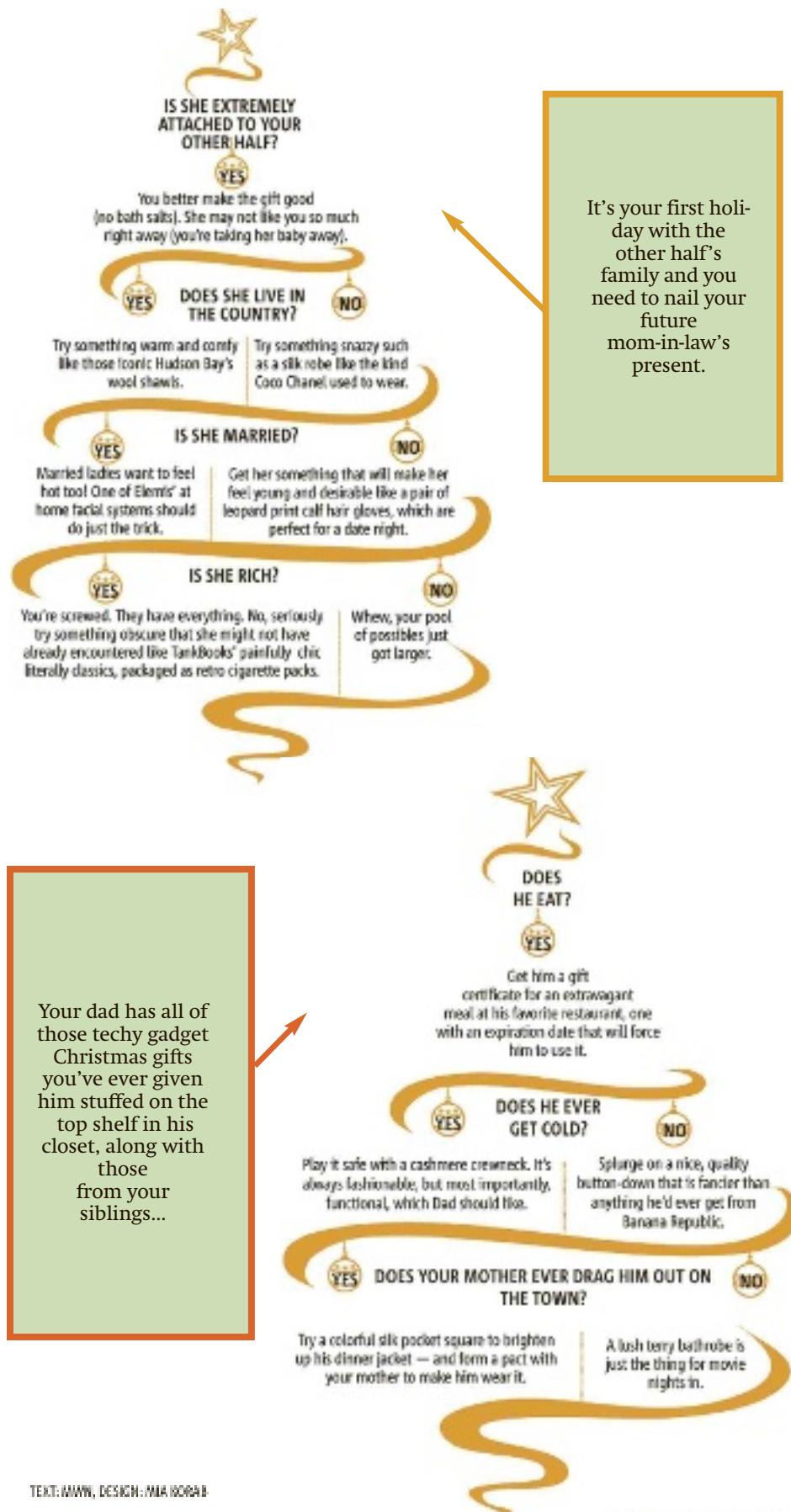
With a five- or 7.5-centimetre heel, there's really not an outfit you can't wear with these boots. She'd put them on in September and not take them off until April — and that's travelling to different places and climates.

"With the wedge, you get comfort and gain a few inches. You can dress it up or dress it down," Ehrlich explains. "It's chic and cool." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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- Don't be a fool when it comes to family
- Follow this guide to win over the two most difficult people to shop for



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If you're sixty and you know it read these trends

THE KIT

It's easy to look and feel your best no matter what your age. Here we compiled some of the best products out there for ladies in their 60s. Go ahead and enhance your natural beauty!

AFTER HOURS

Bedtime is best for rich skin cream, because its con-



EYE DRAMA

Choose a palette with matte and satin options. Guerlain Écrin Couleurs long-lasting eyeshadows has both, plus soft iridescent and subtle metallic shades for strategic

sistency won't interfere with makeup. L'Oréal Paris Age Perfect Hydra-Nutrition Golden Balm Night for dry skin is enhanced with nourishing oils and has a luscious melting texture. \$30, lorrealparis.ca

TAKE A BROW

Brows were full at Jill Stuart, Prada and Alexander Wang; they're a must for defining the face. Urban Decay UrbanBrow Precision Tip Brow Tint has a super-fine brush tip and the perfect water-resistant shade for blondes. (Shown: Blonde.) \$24, urbandecay.com

CRANK THE VOLUME

Boost lifeless locks with Hair: Sally Hershberger Plump Up Thickening Mist for normal to thin hair. \$13, hoppersdrug-mart.ca

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She's got hands in a Bundchen of projects

► Model Gisele launches third collection for C&A

ANDRE PENNER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► Clearly she's more than just a pretty face.

Brazilian top model Gisele Bundchen still walks the world's most exclusive catwalks, but she's also showing off her design skills again with a new collection for the Dutch mass retailer C&A.

Bundchen presented her Gisele Bundchen for C&A summer collection last week in Brazil, where she donned some of her creations for photographers.

Forbes magazine ranked Bundchen as a top earner of the fashion industry this year.

Her third collection for the retailer includes cropped blazers, flowery dresses and Panama hats. It will be available only at the Brazilian branches of

the chain.

C&A has ventured into collaborations with other celebrities such as pop

stars Christina Aguilera, Fergie and Mexican singer Thalia.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Selling old gold and silver jewelry? The bad. The ugly. The good.

Skyrocketing gold and silver prices has many consumers wondering how much their old or broken gold jewelry is worth.

The question you should be asking yourself is: where do you go to ensure you receive a fair offer? There are plenty of options but which ones pass the common sense test?

Option #1: New companies. Inflated promises. False advertising.

Anyone can post really high payout prices. There are no laws to protect unsuspecting consumers from misleading ads that promise to pay outrageous and unrealistic prices.

They use them to lure people in, then adjust weights, inaccurately evaluate material (eg. say something is 10kt when it's actually 14kt). The bottom line, people end up with less money in their pocket, not more.

Option #2: Mail away your gold. Hope for the best.

Most consumers feel uneasy about mailing their jewellery to one of the many flashy "Cash for Gold" type companies seen

on TV. The truth is, several of these companies have received harsh criticism from consumer advocacy groups because of their notoriously shady sales tactics and low payouts.

So, if those ads featuring cash waving "customers" send a chill down your spine, it's for good reason.

Option #3: Recycle Frog, you be the judge.

Recycle Frog is an Ottawa-based precious metals recycling company that has built its business by serving today's more prudent middle and upper-middle-class consumer. Comprised primarily of ex-Royal Canadian Mint employees, Recycle Frog's payout rates are published, and consistently rank among the highest in the industry.

One-on-one evaluations are conducted at their many convenient public events or are pre-scheduled at their World Exchange Plaza location. They're a trusted fundraising partner to various charitable organizations including the United Way, CHEO, Christmas Exchange and The Canadian Cancer Society.

Get a competitive, haggle-free offer for your old gold and silver by simply calling Recycle Frog at 613-695-1236 or visit their website at www.recyclefrog.com for more information.

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Idea + Ikea = ideal for guests

► Karl Lohnes checks out Ottawa's new Ikea ► How a budget guest room can make for 5-star hotel comfort

DESIGN CENTRE



KARL LOHNES
HOME@
METRONEWS.CA

Yesterday was a bigger, greener and exciting day for design conscious shoppers.

The newly built Ikea store opened its doors within the Pinecrest shopping complex.

The new store is almost four times larger and boasts twice as many products

than the old store offered.

Wear comfortable shoes and be prepared to be amazed as the showroom has 55 inspiring room displays and 29 kitchens to check out.

There's also twice as much parking, a 640-person restaurant and a larger ball room for the kids!

Now, let's get shopping — it's that time of the year when our spare bedrooms, couches and even our floors welcome guests visiting for the holidays.

Here are a few easy ways to comfortably welcome friends and family without spending all your holiday budget.



► Finding space for a makeshift guest room doesn't have to compromise comfort.

IKEA.CA

Spoil your guests

A few simple tips to help you be a hostess with the mostess.

- **Don't alarm:** Ask your guest about preferred wake up and breakfast times.
- **Token gesture:** Have some extra tokens for out of town visitors so they can run shopping errands as needed.
- **Mini-magic:** Add some holiday charm to their personal space with a mini holiday tree on the nightstand.
- **Small details:** A scented candle by the bathtub adds instant relaxation.



► An over-the-door hook rack adds an instant closet for keeping things organized for guests.
Grundtal Hanger, \$9.99, Ikea.

Provide thoughtful supplies

As a frequent traveller, I find myself always forgetting something behind at home. What a nice surprise to arrive at a friend's place and discover that they've anticipated my forgetfulness.

Installing a guest account on your home computer, extra toiletries, bottles of water, room spray, extra hangers, an alarm clock, a humidifier and over-the-door hooks for extra hanging storage are all welcomed by guests.

Offer spa treatment

You might only have one bathroom in your place so how do you make it feel as personal for yourself as guests?

Try to strip all your personal belongings on display (perfumes, magazines, towels) and keep them in a carry caddy in your bedroom.

Supply your guests with a similar caddy (filled with toothpaste and shampoo).

Decorate your washroom with decorative towels, fresh flowers and candles.

You might want to supply extra pyjamas, a bathrobe and slippers for your guests; these are usually the last things to be packed and most often don't make the cut.



Carry tote baskets keep toiletries organized and shared bathrooms free of clutter. Nansum Basket, \$24.99, Ikea

Send them to sleep on a cloud

If you don't have an extra bedroom or pull-out sofa, a quality blow up mattress on the floor can create a comfy nest for your guests.

The modern mattresses are leak-proof, have electric pumps and some come with foldable, lightweight bases to elevate the mattress off the floor.

Of course an extra blanket and freshly ironed sheets always create a touch of luxury.

My special treat to overnight guests this year is adding extra comfort to a mattress, sofa or air bed with a mattress topper; just a few extra inches of plush comfort will make them feel like they are sleeping in a 5-star hotel!

► Add a layer of comfort to a mattress, air or sofa bed. Sultan Torod Pillowtop, starting at \$199, Ikea.



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1

Moroccan tea glasses



\$30, justmorocco.com

3

Cire Trudon Nazareth candle



\$80, ciretrudon.com



Venini vase

\$1,610, yoox.com

4**5**

festive ways to spruce up your home for the holidays

KENYA HUNT
STYLE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON



\$38, anthropologie.com

5

Juliaca knit stocking

Style pick**DIY your own holiday tablecloth**

Nothing makes a room feel more "grown up" than table linens. The unfortunate thing is that they tend to be pricey. African wax print fabrics, however, are easily accessible (local African dealers can be found in most major cities), cheaply priced and boldly colourful in a cool way that your mother would never consider. Buy several prints and rotate them throughout the year.

• KH



\$569, roomandboard.com

Maison Martin Margiela By L'Atelier snow globe

GIFTS FOR THE HOME

HUDSON BAY BLANKET

► \$259 and up, hbc.com



LUNARES ICE CREAM HOLDER

► \$48, shopbop.com



PAUL SMITH TEAPOT

► \$375, paulsmith.co.uk



\$38, anthropologie.com

Deck your halls with style

► Design queen Candice Olson gives us a few hints for creating a warm festive glow indoors

DIY IDEAS

Candice Olson is returning for a second season of *Candice Tells All* on Jan. 5 at 7:30 p.m. ET and PT on W Network.

The designer and TV host shares suggestions on ways to personalize your space and spruce up your home for the holidays.

1. Create a personalized wreath on the front door by using letters to spell out a message, or your family name.

You can use any kind of letters. How about letters from vintage signs or monogrammed ornaments?

Hang them on your children's bedroom doors, spelling out their names using toy block letters.

2. Get inspired by nature. Use fresh bows, wreaths, berries and branches around the house to bring the outdoors in.

You can paint pine cones and branches in fun colours and then incorporate them into your arrangements.

Collect small branches from the outdoors, spray with high-gloss paint in various colours, suspend them horizontally and use them to showcase interesting ornaments, such as clip-on bird ornaments or anything with a hit of sparkle to glam up your space.

Sparkle factor

Fill vases of different sizes and shapes with glass ornaments.

► Pretty reflection: Surround the vases with candlelight and place them all on top of an old mirror to maximize the sparkle.

3. Buy some festive metallic accent pillows and cosy faux-fur throws, and then swap out your current accent pillows over the holiday season.

It will add some sparkle and fun to your sofa for those big family get-togethers.

4. Don't forget to include your children's creations in your decor.



► Candice Olson

Holidays are for the whole family.

How about showcasing some of their art and ornaments from previous years in shadow boxes displayed

across the mantel or on a console table, along with some lights and cedar bows.

Have room for two trees? Give the kids a small

tree of their own to decorate any way they want — you may even have a future designer on your hands.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Shine on you crazy diamond

► A little sparkle is in order: Metallics and mirrors can help lengthen the life of your festive decor

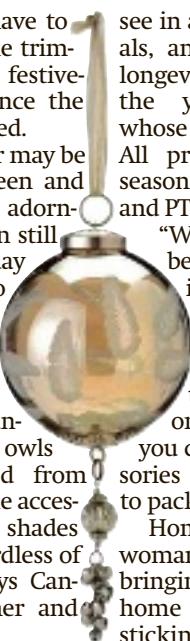
HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

You may not have to pack up all the trimmings and festive-themed baubles once the holidays are wrapped.

Traditional decor may be steeped in red, green and glitter, but your adornments of choice can still channel the holiday spirit and also transform into a new look to transition your space for winter.

From silver candlesticks to novelty owls and lamps crafted from mercury glass, home accessories in metallic shades translate well regardless of the time of year, says Candice Olson, designer and TV host.

"It's a beautiful contrast to all the more matte finishes that you



► A vintage-inspired etched glass ornament (\$4.99) from HomeSense.

see in a lot of decor materials, and it gives you that longevity all throughout the year," says Olson, whose series *Candice Tells All* premieres its second season Jan. 5 at 7:30 p.m. ET and PT on W Network.

"When you need it to be festive, you throw in a couple of pine cones or some Christmas balls in a grouping. But for the rest of the season or the rest of the year, you can keep those accessories out without having to pack them away."

HomeSense spokeswoman Colleen Uncao says bringing metallic shades to home decor isn't about sticking solely to silver, gold or copper, but combining the shimmering shades.

"They're fairly neutral colours themselves," she says. "They're not bright, but they actually bring a bit of that drama. So if you think about it that way, you can mix them together really easily."

Uncao says a good rule of thumb when it comes to mixing metals is maintaining the right balance with respect to contrast.

"You don't want to do everything necessarily (in) sparkle," she says. "You can definitely do matte, you can do things that are little bit more glam, a little bit more shiny."

"What I would do is

probably just incorporate (the metallics) with some neutral ivories and creams to offset it and it looks really great together."

For those seeking to go the more rustic route, Uncao says nature-inspired pieces, such as those crafted from reclaimed wood or driftwood, are also emerging as a popular decor alternative with a shelf life beyond the festive season.

For example, a tabletop tree made out



► A patchwork pillow (\$24.99) from HomeSense.

of driftwood could be decked out with miniature ornaments and surrounded by garland, which could later be removed to

leave the tree on its own post-holidays, she suggests.

A similar approach can be adopted with another seasonal staple — the wreath.

"If you have a plain enough wreath that's more about the greenery on your door, I think that looks fantastic and you can keep it up the whole winter season," says Uncao.

For individuals on a budget who still want to give their space a seasonal spruce-up, Uncao suggests

HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

ornaments as both a stylish addition and a cost-saver.

"If you're dining, you can use them as little place settings, you can use them as part of your centre-pieces, you

can use them on your mantel," she says. "They're really inexpensive, but you can really update (your look)."

Uncao says using mercury glass or beaded ornaments is a simple way to embrace the metallic trend, whether they're nestled in a tabletop bowl or dish or dangling from a Christmas tree. THE CANADIAN PRESS



► A twinkling twig wreath, (\$29.99) from HomeSense.

KEEP THOSE PETALS LOOKIN' PRETTY

CHARLES THE BUTLER



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METRONEWS.CA

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Dear Charles the Butler,
I love to display fresh flowers, but when I receive a bouquet I never know what to do so they last as long as possible. Any suggestions?

Who doesn't love a fresh bouquet of flowers!

Here are some very simple rules to help flowers last longer.

1. Always cut the stems — a clean cut with sharp scissors diagonally will help them "drink" water more efficiently.

2. When in a large vase, always use a maximum of one capful of bleach. This will keep the water clear.

ISTOCK



► Flowers need to be fresh. Period.

night. The warmth will expire flowers more quickly than anything.

5. Change the water in the vase at least every other day.

6. Remove any dead flowers as they die, so that the stem does not decay in the water, thus affecting the other flowers in the vase.

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Cheat old man winter

► Garden 'extenders' let you plant earlier, harvest later, even in cold places

David Whiting is a northern gardener who can't get enough of a good thing. He uses extenders to jump start his growing season in the spring and to harvest late-maturing plants after the snow falls in autumn.

"You can do a lot when you throw a cover over crops," said Whiting, a consumer horticulture specialist with Colorado State University Extension at Fort Collins. "All the heat is in the ground and these devices help recharge it during the day."

By "devices," he means cold frames, hoop houses, cloches, row covers and pop-ups, all of which create cosy microclimates that protect plants from seasonal chills.

Extenders harden indoor-started seedlings while speeding such perennials as asparagus and

rhubarb toward maturity in the spring.

They boost the energy of heat-loving plants like peppers in the summer, while sheltering salad greens, herbs and root crops well into the new year.

Here is a glance at some of these time-tested tools, which can add months to your gardening calendar.

Cold Frames: Simple structures made from wood or cement blocks with window frames or clear plastic sheets hinged or draped over the top. "Cold frames can be used year-round," said Barbara Larson, a horticulture educator with University of Wisconsin Extension. "You'll be able to harvest cool season vegetables through Thanksgiving." That would include arugula, kale, cabbage, cauliflower and leeks.

Hoop Houses: U-shaped plastic pipes or bamboo poles stuck into the ground and covered with polyethylene sheets. These greenhouses-on-the-cheap can be made tall or short, depending upon plant height.

Row covers: Polyester or fabric covers that are laid over plants yet allow light, water and air to circulate. They protect tender edibles and flowers from wind and rain damage as well as temperatures dipping to -2 C.

Cloches: Transparent dome-shaped structures with the bottoms removed that can cover single plants. "A lot of people use old milk containers, but that actually slows growth because they're opaque," Larson said. "Avoid them because they keep things cooler inside rather than warmer."

Let plants breathe

Be careful that you don't unintentionally provide too much protection.

► **Ventilation is vital:** It can get scorching hot inside the extenders during the day if they're not properly vented.

Pop-ups: Tent-like frames that can be shifted from site to site.

"They're affordable, easy to use and can protect to 25 degrees" (-4 C), said Maree Gaetani, a spokeswoman for Gardener's Supply Co., in Burlington, Vt. "Some people use them for insect protection; others for frost."

Whiting adds even more warmth into his cold frames with Christmas-tree lights and thermal space blankets. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► These garden extender cones have holes on top to help with ventilation.

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"I can't believe how much we accomplished. We've lived in our home for years and didn't do anything, and that could have gone on forever. This motivated us to do stuff we were procrastinating about."

— Chris Renwick, Episode 3

D.I.Y. holiday centrepieces

► The goal: Pretty decorations that read cool and young, not old-fashioned and lame ► To start, stay away from the poinsettia plants your grandma breaks out every year and go for something a little more organic looking

 **KENYA HUNT**
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN NEW YORK

Entertaining at home has never been trendier



To the flower market you go

Skip the grocery store and those temptingly cheap holiday themed plants. They may look like an easy way to give your place that extra yuletide oomph but they will actually send your place back to 1986, and not in a cool, retro kind of way. The selection of blooms at your nearest flower market will definitely look much better.

thanks to a shoddy economy and increasingly fashionable foodie culture.

But a string of at-home holiday parties brings up the inevitable question of how to decorate, let alone

what to serve.

Enter the holiday centrepiece, which has

evolved beyond its Martha Stewart associations to a cooler, edgier place,

surfacing in the homes of style-y types on interiors blogs.

Here are a few quick and painless steps to creating your own.



Go for variety

Choose full blooms in a Chrismukkah appropriate colour like candy apple red or wine to serve as the main attraction of your centrepiece. And then fill it out with foliage and snowberry branches, which will conjure up images of walking through a winter wonderland on your way to a log cabin. But don't get too homey and literal. Give the arrangement some edge by throwing in unexpected colours to tilt the traditional red and green colour palette just a bit off-kilter. We opted for light violet berries.



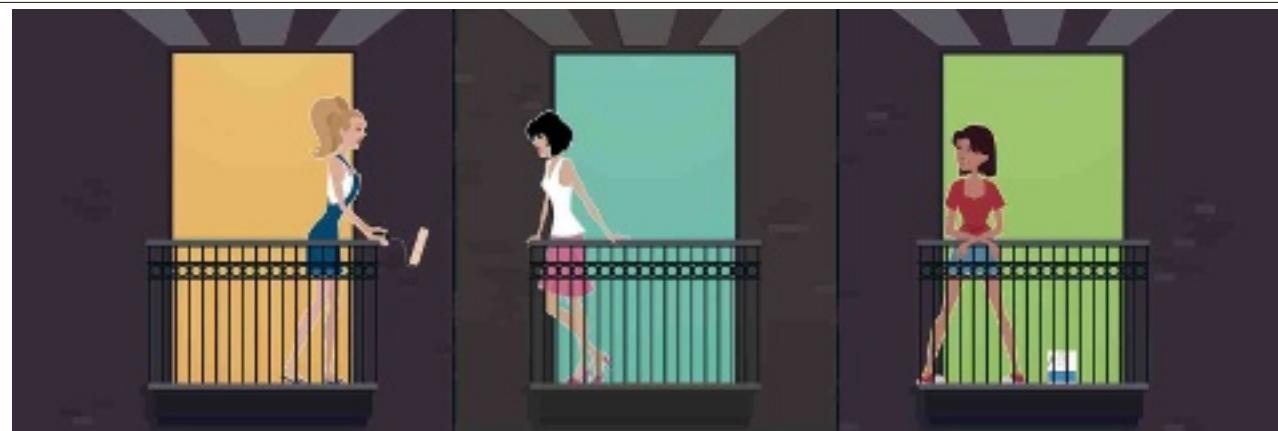
For an extra dose of fancy, work in fruit

Go all Dutch masters on your guests by tossing a few pomegranates, oranges and red grapes in a wooden bowl and placing it next to your florals on the table. Or just casually leave the fruit on the tabletop itself, as if you dropped a few apples as you were cooking earlier, and they just happened to roll up next to the vase in an artful way.

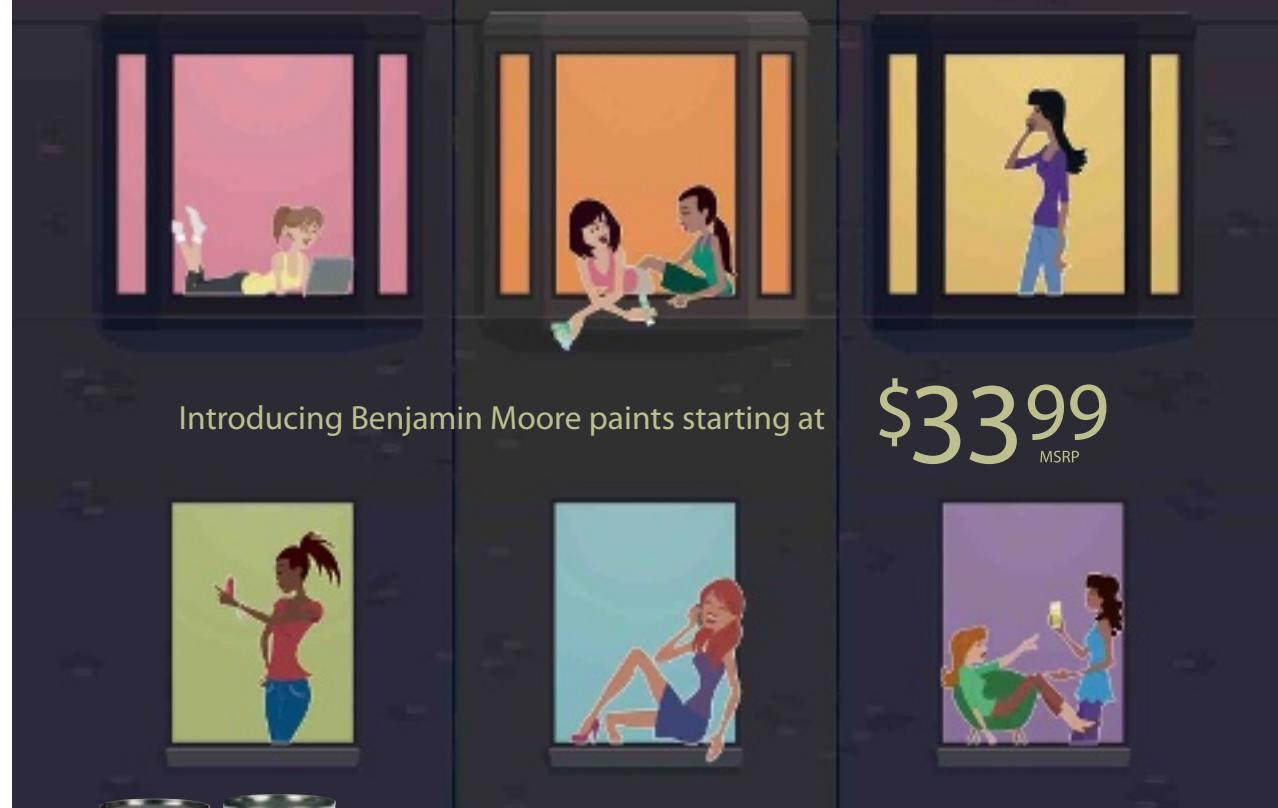


Look beyond the table

In the same way that you'd string white lights all over the house, place your holiday flowers in places other than the table to achieve that full-on merry, merry look. A few suggested locations: next to the bathroom sink, on the fireplace mantel or on top of piles of magazines or books (an excellent way to distract guests from the fact that you didn't have time to put all the clutter away).



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SPECIAL INFORMATION FEATURE

Festive fun in every sip

► Try Wychwood's Bah Humbug Christmas Cheer Ale



JEFF
O'REILLY
FOR METRO

Oh, the hustle and bustle in preparing for another hectic holiday season.

Juggling a long list of social engagements, family commitments, balancing the naughty or nice list against requests for the year's hottest "must have" gifts, the temptation to use the credit card that is already burning a hole in your pocket, all while facing a backdrop of never-ending bright, shiny lights, 24-7 classic holiday TV and the barrage of unavoidable music that has been playing non-stop since October — it's no wonder some people just say "Bah Humbug!"

It's a nonsensical, gibberish catchphrase and I

Scrooge

► "Bah Humbug" has become synonymous with expressing disgust in everything that is wrong with Christmas, yet old Ebenezer Scrooge only says it twice in the entire 1843 Charles Dickens classic *A Christmas Carol*.

have caught myself saying it, but, thankfully, some tiny magical memory of Christmas past always seems to turn things around and find me with a giant smile on my face long before the 25th arrives.

This year, that smile arrived extra early when I was doing some strategic Christmas shopping at the LCBO and looked down to see a bottle of beer with

Scrooge himself staring back at me.

The Wychwood Brewery serves up its Christmas cheer with a sense of humour — in fact, everything it does is with a sense of humour. While the brewery is most famous for Hobgoblin, its "Official Beer of Halloween," it continues to deliver outstanding seasonal and specialty beers for almost all occasions.

I had the pleasure of visiting the brewery's Hobgoblin pub in Bath, England, a number of years back, and everything it brewed was playfully presented with delightful artwork and wonderful tongue-in-cheek wordplay ... but make no mistake, these guys make seriously good beers.

Bah Humbug Christmas Cheer Ale (five per cent al-



► Trying to sway a famous "milk and cookie" guy to try something a little more adventurous over the holidays.

cohol by volume, LCBO 500ml \$3.50) pours a deep burnt amber with bountiful tan head.

Sweet, dessert-like aromas of fruitcake, caramel and raisins jump out of the glass before delicious tastes of plums, raisins, tof-

fee, cinnamon, nuts, vanilla, brown sugar and bready malts dance across your taste buds. The mouth feel is evenly carbonated, mild, warming and a bit chewy with a slightly lingering oily finish. It's festive fun in every sip.

Extensive collection of seasonal sparklers, holiday cheer



SUSAN
DESJARDINS
FOR METRO

Saturday is LCBO Vintages' grand finale for 2011.

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For an all-Canadian



turkey dinner, choose 13th Street 'Cuvée 13' Sparkling Brut Rosé, Mission Hill 'Reserve' Pinot Noir, and Malivore Musqué Spritz.

Château Rochecolombe Côtes du Rhône 2009, France

(LCBO #255034, \$14.95)

► A Syrah, Grenache and Mourvèdre blend laden with spiced berries, vanilla and toast.

13th Street 'Cuvée 13'

Sparkling Brut Rosé,

Niagara

(LCBO #147504, \$24.95)

► Subtle floral, berry and

toast aromas, a fresh texture and fine creamy mousse.

► Lush berry fruit, intricate aroma, great balance and structure.

Robert Mondavi Moscato d'Oro 2009, Napa

(LCBO #687392, \$20.95)

► For dessert — frizzante, balancing sweet stone fruit and tangy lime.

Viña Cobos 'Felino'

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► A fresh texture and ripe tannins balance rich, sweetly spiced fruit.

GRAND TOTAL: \$98.75

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Buy local at artisan food fair

Saturday's Ottawa Locavore Artisan Food Fair is offering up delicious holiday gifts and entertainment solutions to anyone with the desire to keep it real — real local that is.

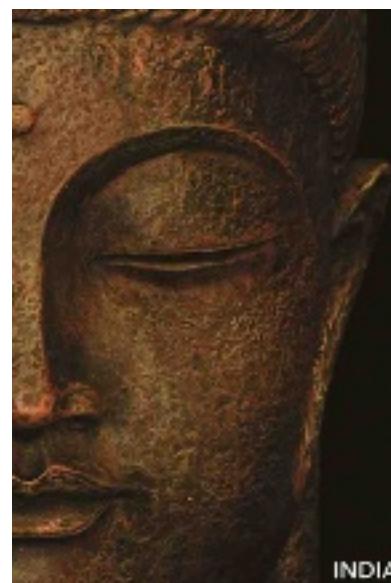
With more than 26 different vendors attending this holiday event, any gourmand interested in observing the 100-mile locavore philosophy will be spoiled. Chutneys, preserves and mustards from Mrs. McGarrigle's Fine Mustard will be available for tasting.

The vendors at Just Wing It will have the most Ottawa-sourced sauce for your meats this season, including "Just Grillin'" with local maple syrup, Beau's all natural beer and mellow chipotle peppers. Other vendors will include Scratch Kitchen, Vegetarian Treasure's and Dolci Bake Shop.

Wood-fired pizzas from The Flatbread Pizza Company will be made on site. Proceeds from a silent auction will go to the School Breakfast Program. Free admission.

The Ottawa Locavore Artisan Food Fair will be held Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Crichton Cultural Community Centre (255 MacKay St.). For more, see ottawalaff.ca

● SAMANTHA EVERETT



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Pressed: A paradise for gourmet sandwiches


SAMANTHA EVERTS
FOR METRO

Residents of Gladstone Street woke up surprised to find Pressed, a trendy café-bistro, had popped up in their urbanite neighbourhood last week.

Jeff Stewart, a former waiter turned civil servant, quit his day job after falling for similar style restaurants in Brooklyn, N.Y.

"I saw there was a real niche for food that's casual, but higher quality in a really great environment that had all sorts of walks of life."

With thick and crusty artisan bread, sandwiches range from margherita with black olive tapenade, mozzarella and roasted tomatoes that burst with flavour to in-house smoked beef brisket.



► Sweet potato chili, front, cheese curd macaroni, and flank steak at Pressed.

But it's not all about sandwiches; sides like macaroni and cheese with real Quebec curds, local flank steak salad with blue cheese, and generous portions of sweet potato chili, thick with vegetables, are rave-worthy.

Go figure, Jak's Kitchen staff have done double duty to establish the menu. "We smoke the pulled pork for 12 hours so that

it's so tender it just falls off the bone," says Stewart.

And for dessert, the decadent, gluten-free brownies and spiced ginger cookies do the trick.

The large space is inviting with vintage lamps and rich, wood church pews lining the booth walls. Trivial Pursuit and Archie comics sit atop some tables.

"I built the stage," Stewart says proudly. "I figure if I build it, they will come." Once his liquor licence is approved he hopes to fill the stage regularly.

"It's for people who love living in the city," says Stewart.

Their first art show is today from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. with live music and cash bar.

Pressed is located at 750 Gladstone Ave. For more, see pressed-ottawa.com.



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Cue the crowd-pleasing casseroles

► This Crab and Rice casserole is creamy, portable and feeds a crowd of 16 a hearty dinner

Many of us seem to spend the entire month of December on the move, going from one work or family gathering to another. Which means the food you make for these events needs to feed a crowd and be portable, in addition to tasting great. Enter the holiday casserole!

This multilayer dish takes the flavours of a creamy crab dip (that near ubiquitous offering at holiday gatherings) and turns it into a meal. It serves 16 as a hearty dinner, but can feed many more at a potluck, where diners tend to take smaller portions of each dish.

Preparation:

- Spray a 3 L (13-by-9-inch) baking pan with cooking spray; set aside. In food processor, pulse celery, pepper and red onion until chopped.



MATTHEW MEAD / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

- In a large skillet heat oil over medium-high; add chopped vegetables, garlic, salt and pepper and sauté 3 to 4 minutes or until softened. Stir in corn and rice; then spoon into bottom of prepared baking pan.

- Crab Layer: In a bowl, stir cream cheese,

- mayonnaise, milk and seasoning. Gently stir in crab and chives; spoon over rice mixture.
- Topping: Return skillet to medium heat and add butter until melted; remove from heat. Add panko, paprika and salt; stir until well mixed. Sprinkle evenly over top

of crab mixture. Bake in 200 C (400 F) oven 20 minutes or until bubbly. Let rest 5 minutes before serving.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/
ADAPTED FOR METRO BY EMILY
RICHARDS, PROFESSIONAL
HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK
AUTHOR AND TV CHEF. FOR
MORE VISIT,
EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA**

Ingredients:

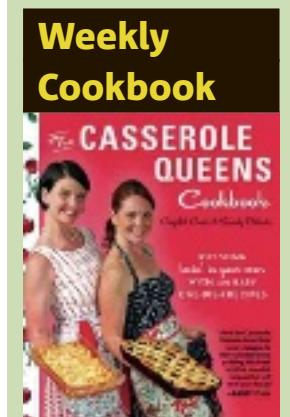
- 2 stalks celery, chopped
- 1 red bell pepper, chopped
- 1 medium red onion, quartered
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) olive oil
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) salt, pepper
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) frozen corn kernels, thawed
- 750 ml (3 cups) cooked long-grain white rice

Crab Layer

- 500 g (1 lb) Neufchatel cream cheese, softened
- 250 ml (1 cup) mayonnaise
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) milk
- 10 ml (2 tsp) Old Bay Seasoning
- 1 kg (2 lb) lump crab meat
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) chopped fresh chives or scallions

Topping:

- 45 ml (3 tbsp) butter
- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) panko breadcrumbs
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) paprika
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) salt



Crystal Cook and Sandy Pollock, the casserole Queens, have built their business around revamping the ultimate quick-fix dinners for modern tastes.

In The Casserole Queens Cookbook (Potter, 2011), they share updated recipes for traditional dishes such as chicken potpie, shrimp and grits, stuffed peppers, tuna noodle casserole, ham and cheese skillet casserole, and more. The Queens also provide advice on scaling and freezing casseroles, 16 pages of photos and more.

► Artichoke & Gorgonzola Casserole makes this an elegant yet simple dish – perfect for dinner parties

With the busy holiday season upon us, it is handy to have a simple but elegant dish ready to serve family and guests.

Using canned artichokes is a convenient and easy way to add a new vegetable idea to your repertoire and a new side dish for the hol-

iday table this year.

You can find canned artichokes easily in any grocery aisle of canned goods.

Preparation:

- In large non-stick skillet, melt butter over medium-high heat and cook peppers, onion, garlic, parsley and Italian seasoning, stirring frequently, for about 8 minutes or until tender crisp and becoming golden. Scrape into a shallow 2.5-l (10-cup) casserole dish. Stir in artichokes; set aside.

- In same skillet, whisk together cream and flour.

Add cheese and bring to a simmer over medium-high heat. Whisk until Gorgonzola cheese is melted and stir in pepper. Pour over vegetable mixture.

- Topping: In a small bowl, combine breadcrumbs, parsley and butter. Sprinkle over vegetables and bake in 200 C (400 F) oven for about 20 minutes or until bubbly and topping is golden. Let stand for 5 minutes before serving.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/Dairy Farmers of Canada (anydaymagic.ca)/ ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS



► This recipe makes six to eight servings.

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Caps win a wild one

► Ovechkin, Washington manage to beat Senators after trailing 2-1 in third period



Alex Ovechkin and Troy Brouwer scored goals 15 seconds apart in the third period last night as the Washington Capitals hung on to defeat the Ottawa Senators 5-3.

Jeff Halpern, Nicklas Backstrom and John Carlson, into an empty net, had the other goals for Washington (14-12-1), which got 31 saves from Tomas Vokoun.

Nick Foligno, Erik Condra and Milan Michalek replied for Ottawa (13-12-3). Craig Anderson stopped 39 shots his seventh straight start.

The Capitals also beat the Senators 3-2 in overtime on Saturday night to hand new head coach Dale Hunter his first win.

Trailing 2-1 in the third yesterday, Backstrom snapped a quick shot over Anderson's shoulder on the power play at 9:45 to tie the game.

Washington then put the game out of reach with two quick goals while the teams were play-



► Washington's Alex Ovechkin is checked by Sergei Gonchar as Craig Anderson looks on.

ing 4-on-4.

Ovechkin faked a slapshot before beating Anderson between the legs at 13:50 and Brouwer banged home a pass in front just 15 seconds later.

Michalek scored his 17th of the season with the Senators on the power play at 16:08 and Daniel Alfredsson had a great chance to tie it on another man advantage with An-

derson on the bench late in the third.

The puck popped out to the Senators captain in the slot, but he couldn't beat a sprawling Vokoun.

Carlson, who also had two assists, added an empty-net goal to seal the win.

Washington dominated play early on, outshooting Ottawa 15-6 in the first, and should have taken the lead in the first period.

The Capitals had a full two-minute two-man advantage, but were unable to get anything past Anderson.

Washington opened the scoring at 2:12 of the second when Halpern jumped on a Dennis Wideman rebound in front.

Ovechkin speared Chris Neil midway through the period after taking a hit. Neil dropped to his knees

but ended up receiving an unsportsmanlike penalty, much to the anger of the 17,771 on hand at Scotiabank Place. Ovechkin was roundly booed the remainder of the night.

Ottawa tied the game 1-1 when Condra showed some great hands drawing the puck back and tucking it in as he fell to the ice at 12:43.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Senators preview

Ottawa
at New Jersey
7 p.m.
TV: SNET



Ottawa (13-12-3) travels to New Jersey (13-12-1) for its second game in two nights. Martin Brodeur led the Devils out of their four-game losing skid with 29 saves in a 3-2 overtime victory against Toronto on Tuesday. David Clarkson scored twice, including the game-winner. Adam Henrique is on a six-game point streak, with two goals and five assists, while Zach Parise and Ilya Kovalchuk both appear to be finding their game after slow starts with five-game point streaks.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB buzz still centred around Marlins

Albert Pujols will get a huge contract, there's no doubt. But the team that will sign the three-time NL MVP remains unclear.

Will it be St. Louis, the team he's helped to two World Series titles?

The new-look Miami Marlins, whose newfound riches from their new ballpark are dominating the free-agent market?

The Los Angeles Angels, until now in the background?

Miami was the talk of

\$58M The Miami Marlins plucked another free agent prize yesterday, reaching a deal with four-time all-star pitcher Mark Buehrle for \$58 million US over four years.

the winter meetings in Dallas yesterday, with teams wondering how close they were to an agreement with Pujols on a deal that could be worth \$200 million US or more over 10 years.

St. Louis said it made a new offer Tuesday to keep Pujols. Agents said they had heard the Angels were bidding, too. Big spenders such as the New York Yankees and Boston Red Sox were reduced to spectators.

"They have a new stadium. They're excited about it, and it's good for baseball," Yankees manager Joe Girardi said of the Marlins. "Our roster is pretty set."

Shortstop Jose Reyes' \$106-million, six-year contract was finalized yester-

day, a deal that pays him \$10 million in each of the next two seasons, \$16 million in 2014 and \$22 million in each of the final three years. Miami has \$22 million option for 2018 with a \$4 million buyout.

"It's a perfect situation in Miami," Reyes said. "We have a lot of talent there and the new stadium ... close to Dominican, a lot of Spanish people there, so I think I'm going to like it and enjoy it as much as I can." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► New Marlins shortstop Jose Reyes puts on a team cap yesterday in Dallas.



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NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Pittsburgh	28	16	8	2	2	86	69	36	8-2-0	8-6-0-2	5-4-0-1	L1
d-Boston	26	17	8	0	1	89	54	35	10-5-0-1	7-3-0-0	8-1-0-1	L1
d-Florida	27	15	8	1	3	78	69	34	6-2-1-3	9-6-0-0	6-3-1-0	W2
NY Rangers	24	15	6	1	2	71	55	33	7-2-1	8-4-1-1	7-3-0-0	L1
Philadelphia	25	15	7	2	1	90	73	33	6-4-1-1	9-3-1-0	7-3-0-0	W2
Toronto	28	15	10	2	1	89	90	33	6-4-2-1	9-6-0-0	5-4-1-0	L1
Buffalo	26	14	11	0	1	72	69	29	6-8-0-1	8-3-0-0	4-5-0-1	W1
Ottawa	27	13	11	2	1	83	91	29	7-4-0-1	6-7-2-0	6-2-2-0	W1
Winnipeg	27	12	11	3	1	77	83	28	8-4-0	4-7-3-1	7-2-1-0	W3
Montreal	28	11	11	2	4	69	72	28	4-5-2-3	7-6-0-1	2-4-2-2	L1
Washington	26	13	12	0	1	79	84	27	9-4-0-1	4-8-0-0	3-7-0-0	L1
New Jersey	26	13	12	0	1	65	74	27	5-4-0-1	8-8-0-0	5-5-0-0	W1
Tampa Bay	27	11	14	0	2	70	89	24	7-4-0-0	4-10-0-2	3-7-0-0	L5
NY Islanders	25	9	11	3	2	57	79	23	6-6-2-0	3-5-1-2	5-3-1-1	W2
Carolina	29	8	17	2	2	72	101	20	5-9-0-2	3-8-2-0	2-8-0-0	L7

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Minnesota	28	18	7	2	1	71	61	39	10-4-1-0	8-3-1-1	9-1-0-0	W5
d-Chicago	28	16	8	1	3	93	88	36	8-2-0-3	8-6-1-0	5-4-0-1	L1
d-Phoenix	27	15	9	1	2	74	67	33	7-5-1-1	8-4-0-1	6-4-0-0	W2
Detroit	26	16	9	1	0	77	59	33	10-2-1-0	6-7-0-0	7-3-0-0	L2
Vancouver	27	16	10	0	1	89	67	33	8-4-0-1	8-6-0-0	8-2-0-0	W2
St. Louis	27	15	9	0	3	66	60	33	9-3-0-1	6-6-0-2	6-2-0-2	W1
Dallas	26	15	10	0	1	69	72	31	9-4-0-1	6-6-0-0	4-5-0-1	L1
Los Angeles	27	13	10	2	2	62	61	30	8-7-0-1	5-3-2-1	5-4-1-0	L2
San Jose	24	14	9	1	0	68	58	29	7-6-0-1	7-3-0-0	5-5-0-0	L2
Edmonton	27	13	11	0	3	76	71	29	7-4-0-2	6-7-0-1	4-5-0-1	L1
Nashville	27	12	11	3	1	70	74	28	4-5-2-1	8-6-1-0	3-6-1-0	L2
Colorado	28	13	14	1	0	75	84	27	7-9-0-0	6-5-1-0	5-5-0-0	L1
Calgary	27	12	13	1	1	67	78	26	6-5-1-1	6-8-0-0	5-4-0-1	W1
Anaheim	27	8	14	2	3	63	89	21	6-9-1-0	2-5-1-3	2-6-1-1	W1
Columbus	27	8	16	0	3	65	90	19	5-7-0-1	2-9-0-2	5-5-0-0	W1

d—division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results

Washington at Ottawa

Philadelphia at Buffalo

Carolina at Edmonton

Tuesday's results

New Jersey 3 Toronto 2 (OT)

Winnipeg 2 Boston 1

Calgary 7 Carolina 6

Vancouver 6 Colorado 0

Columbus 3 Montreal 2 (SO)

St. Louis 3 Detroit 2

Anaheim 3 Los Angeles 2

Minnesota 2 San Jose 1

N.Y. Islanders 5 Tampa Bay 1

Phoenix 3 Nashville 2

Tonight's games

All times Eastern

Florida at Boston, 7 p.m.

Ottawa at New Jersey, 7 p.m.

Chicago at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.

Tampa Bay at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.

Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.

Nashville at Columbus, 7 p.m.

Vancouver at Montreal, 7:30 p.m.

Phoenix at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.

Anaheim at St. Louis, 8 p.m.

Colorado at Calgary, 9 p.m.

Minnesota at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

Dallas at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

Tomorrow's games

Toronto at Washington, 7 p.m.

Florida at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.

Carolina at Winnipeg, 8:30 p.m.

Colorado at Edmonton, 9:30 p.m.

LATE TUESDAY

CANUCKS 6, AVALANCHE 0

First Period

1. Vancouver, D.Sedin 10 (Burrows, H.Sedin) 3:19

Penalties — Porter Col (kneeling major, game misconduct) 10:55, Kesler Vcr (goaltender interference) 17:23.

Second Period

2. Vancouver, Hansen 8 (Bieksa, Hodgson) 6:53

Penalties — Edler Vcr (holding) 11:49, Hamhuis Vcr (boarding) 13:05, Galiardi Col (tripping) 17:05.

Third Period

3. Vancouver, D.Sedin 11 (H.Sedin, Hamhuis) 5:15

4. Vancouver, Hansen 9 (Edler, Ballard) 5:49

5. Vancouver, D.Sedin 12 (Burrows, H.Sedin) 7:08

6. Vancouver, Edler 4 (Hodgson, Schneider) 9:40 (pp)

Penalties — McClement Col (holding the stick) 2:46, Quincey Col, Burrows Vcr (roughing) 4:51, Quincey Col (double roughing), Lapierre Vcr (roughing), Weis Vcr (misconduct) 8:27, Bieksa Vcr (roughing) 11:12, Landeskog Col (high-sticking) 11:59, O'Brien Col (fighting), Kobasew Col (misconduct), Oreskovich Vcr (fighting, holding), Lapierre Vcr (misconduct) 14:46.

Shots on goal

Colorado 12 11 10 —33

Vancouver 6 6 11 —23

Goal (shots-saves) — Colorado: Varlamov (L,9-11-1) 21-15, Giguere (9:40 third; 2-2); Vancouver: Luongo (W,9-6-1) 13-13, Schneider (3:48 second; 20-20). Power plays (goals-chances) — Colorado: 0-5; Vancouver: 1-5. Attendance — 18,860 (18,860) at Vancouver.

LATE TUESDAY

DUCKS 3, KINGS 2

First Period

1. Anaheim, Ryan 8 (Selanne) 7:59

2. Anaheim, Perry 12 (Getzlaf, Beleskey) 17:37

Penalties — None.

Second Period

3. Los Angeles, Voynov 4 (Penner, Kopitar) 19:44

Penalty — Doughty LA (tripping) 14:29.

Third Period

4. Los Angeles, Williams 4 (Stoll) 8:50

5. Anaheim, Ryan 9 (Selanne) 19:11

Penalties — Hagman Ana (interference) 0:39, Penner LA (slashing) 4:06, Lydman Ana (interference) 13:46.

Shots on goal

Los Angeles 8 8 23 —39

Anaheim 7 12 8 —27

Goal — Los Angeles: Quick (L,11-7-4); Anaheim: Hiller (W,7-11-5). Power plays (goals-chances) — Los Angeles: 0-2; Anaheim: 0-2. Att. — 14,419 (17,174) at Anaheim, Calif.

WILD 2, SHARKS 1

First Period

1. San Jose, Pavelski 12 (Boyle) 1:00

2. Minnesota, Koivu 5 (Heatley, Wellman) 17:41

3. Minnesota, Bouchard 5 (Koivu, Spurgeon) 19:48 (pp)

Penalties — Almond Min (double high-stick-ing) 10:45, Mitchell SJ (tripping) 19:11.

Second Period — No Scoring.

Penalty — Heatley Min (boarding) 18:08.

Third Period — No Scoring.

Penalty — Marleau SJ (boarding) 8:17.

Shots on goal

Minnesota 10 6 5 —21

San Jose 23 10 9 —42

Goal (shots-saves) — Minnesota: Harding (8-7), Hackett (W,1-0-0)(1:11 first) (34-34); San Jose: Niemi (L,10-5-1). Power plays (goals-chances) — Minnesota: 1-2; San Jose: 0-3. Att. — 17,562 (17,562) at San Jose, Calif.

SCORING LEADERS

G A PT

Kessel, Tor 17 18 35

D.Sedin, Vcr 12 21 33

Toews, Chi 17 15 32

Giroux, Pha 15 17 32

Lupul, Tor 13 19 32

Stamkos, TB

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Pens put Crosby back on the shelf

► GM Shero says star centre will miss two games 'as a precaution' after taking hard hit in Monday's loss to Boston

Just the news the Pittsburgh Penguins dreaded — Sidney Crosby is back on the sidelines.

Only this time, the Penguins insist their superstar will miss two games strictly for precautionary reasons and not because of a recurrence of the concussion that forced him to sit out 61 games over two seasons.

Crosby took part in a full practice yesterday, but did not accompany the Penguins on a road trip for games tonight at Philadelphia and Saturday at the New York Islanders. The next time he could play would be Tuesday at home against Detroit.

A hard hit in the Penguins' 3-1 loss Monday to



Boston — the team did not specify which one it was — led to the decision to sit Crosby again. Early in the

game, Crosby was seen with what appeared to be redness on his face, possibly the result of a hit.

JARED WICKERHAM/GETTY IMAGES

Million
Estimated Amenity



► Sidney Crosby, left, takes to the ice against the Islanders Nov. 21 in Pittsburgh.

Kunitz collision

Crosby and teammate Chris Kunitz collided knee-on-knee during the third period against Boston Monday and Crosby went to the bench doubled over in pain.

► Crosby returned after several minutes. The Penguins did not confirm it was the hit in question.

cent," Penguins general manager Ray Shero said in a statement issued late yesterday afternoon. "He saw Dr. Mickey Collins of UPMC today and took an ImPACT (neurocognitive) test, which showed no prob-

lems. However, we all think it's best that he sits out the next two games as a precaution."

The ImPACT test — designed by Pittsburgh-based researchers, including Collins — measures a person's cognitive and memory skills before and after a concussion. The test is widely used by multiple pro sports leagues and teams to determine when a player is ready to return to game action.

Crosby was administered the test periodically while he was sidelined with a concussion from Jan. 6 until Nov. 20 — one that resulted from hard hits in successive games Jan. 1 and 5. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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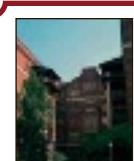
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Crossword

Across

1 Get well
5 Start over
9 Dandy
12 Pelvic bones
13 On
14 "I — Camera"
15 Mask
17 Back talk
18 Advertising section
19 Selassie worshipper
21 B&O, for ex.
22 Dodge
24 — and crafts
27 Hearty brew
28 Sandwich treat
31 Round Table address
32 60 sec.
33 Mischievous tyke
34 First course, often
36 Peculiar
37 Touch
38 Obliterate
40 Yours truly
41 Earring locations
43 Random drawing?
47 Lubricate
48 HBO's vampire series
51 Wilde-beest
52 Greek vowel
53 Radius neighbor
54 — out a living
55 Coral structure
56 Appear

Down

1 Stereo setup
2 Verve
3 Has a bug
4 "Star Wars" weaponry
5 Huck's transport
6 Schedule abbr.
7 Elmer, to Bugs
8 "Tosca," e.g.
9 It barely connects to the sternum
10 Leave out
11 One of the Three Bears
16 Mess up
20 Commotion
22 Skip a phoneme
23 Sell
24 Fool
25 Carnival city
26 Loyal to the end
27 Andy's old radio pal
29 Ostrich's kin
30 Make up your mind
35 Opposite of "post—"
37 Greek god of the winds
39 Moving about
40 Flash —
41 Theater box
42 Sty cry
43 Unwilling to listen
44 Apportion (out)
45 Unraveled
46 Cheese choice
49 Shad product
50 Salt Lake athlete



Today's horoscope



For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Aries March 21-April 20 Do something meaningful today, something that makes a difference in your corner of the world.

Taurus April 21-May 21 You may be eager to push ahead with a new plan or project but wait until Saturday's eclipse has passed.

Gemini May 22-June 21 The straightest route to your destination may not be the best one.

Cancer June 22-July 22 You could come into a sum of money today, and it's just as possible that you could lose it. Either way, don't take material things too seriously.

Leo July 23-Aug. 23 What happens today will at first look like a challenge and then like an opportunity. Get competitive.

Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 Stay calm, be patient and don't try to force the pace over the next 24 hours. You may have to wait for those who think slowly to catch up.

Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 If you upset someone in a position of power, make sure you apologize.

Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 There is no point getting worked up if a colleague does a poor job of what he or she is working on.

Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 Bide your time today. Let others make the first move. Nothing is so urgent that it must be done now.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Try not to get caught up in the hysteria that seems to be making the rounds at the moment. Stay calm.

Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 A little bit of modesty will go a long way over the next 24 hours.

Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. You may be tempted to cut corners and hope that no one notices. They most likely will, leading to embarrassment.

• SALLY BROMPTON

Sudoku

9	8		2		6			
4	5		7	1				4
8						6	1	
5								8
8				6	9			
1								5
6	3		4	2				
5	2		1		7			

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ►



Friday
1°/-3°
Partly cloudy
Light snow
70%

can't eat, Maybe my life would be complete if you let me spend it with you from making up my mind! Sent you a message. look. Sweetly caring! Secret wish for you to show up at my door. Hold me, please and thank you. Totally understand, if nothing comes of this. I am strong been thru enough to not let negatives get me down.
CAN'T SLEEP

Know what the weather will be 14 days from now. Check the 14 day trend.

TWN incorporates MBC data



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can't eat, Maybe my life would be complete if you let me spend it with you from making up my mind! Sent you a message. look. Sweetly caring! Secret wish for you to show up at my door. Hold me, please and thank you. Totally understand, if nothing comes of this. I am strong been thru enough to not let negatives get me down.
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